The Middlebury Campus

VOL. CXVI, No. 9 | MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT, NOVEMBER 16, 2017 | MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM

STUDENTS QUESTION ADMINISTRATORS AT TENSE TOWN HALL

By SARAH ASCH and JAMES FINN
Features Editors

President Laurie L. Patton sent a school-wide email on Wednesday, Nov. 8 inviting students, faculty and staff to a town hall the following day.

"It is clear to me and, I believe, to many of you, that the essential bond of trust and assumption of good intentions that should unite us is broken," the email read.

Co-sponsored by the Black Student Union and the Student Government Association (SGA), the audience filled Wilson Hall to capacity, causing the event to be moved to Mead Chapel. Monitored by SGA members, students had the opportunity to ask administrators direct questions.

Below are excerpts from the meeting, which have been edited for length and clarity. The Campus will publish additional coverage of the event in its next issue, on Nov. 30. For the full transcript and video of the event, visit middleburycampus.com.

MATT GILLIS/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

After overflowing Wilson Hall, hundreds of people were relocated to Mead Chapel for a town hall event with senior administrators.

INTRODUCTION

Jin Sohn ('18, SGA President): "SGA would like to acknowledge the presence of everyone in this room, and to thank you for taking the time to join us, together, as a community for an imperative conversation on respect and inclusivity. Over the past week, members of the SGA student cabinet have been working to support the student body in light of the recent painful and alienating events and dialogues. Likewise, many cultural orgs including BSU and other student activists have been working overtime to support students.

"We want to recognize those efforts especially because they were led by students from marginalized backgrounds. Today's conversation is not a solution in itself. But it can and must lead to transformations on our campus. We are here today because, in whatever way, we care. Please let us join together in that shared core value in order to foster change on our campus."

Laurie Patton (President of Middlebury): "Thank you so much. I'm really, really pleased to see everyone here. Thank you for being here, thank you for hanging in and staying in the difficult conversation. I want, particularly, to thank student leadership, particularly BSU and SGA for hosting this event, and we really look forward to hearing the voices of the members of all of our communities. We are in new territory at Middlebury, where we need to begin building a new kind of community, one that includes voices that we either have not heard or only partially heard. There are so many ways that such communities need to be built and the first is to give voice to experience. We want to pay attention to structures that cannot give voice to that experience, the economic, social and status hierarchies that limit us.

"Because of acts of racial bias on this campus and in this town, many students, faculty and staff have called us to account and are hurting. And while we are in new territory of trying to build a new kind of community, we are also in very old, unacknowledged territory. Part of Middlebury's unspoken story

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Republican Tax Bills May Threaten College and State

College Officials Voice Opposition

By NICK GARBER
News Editor

As Republicans in Congress move forward with tax reform legislation, administrators at Middlebury and at colleges across the country have expressed concerns about several provisions that could significantly alter the federal government's role in higher education.

Most significant is a proposal to impose a 1.4 percent excise tax on the investment income of private schools with endowments worth over $250,000 per full-time student. Middlebury enrolls over 2,500 undergraduate students, with an endowment of $1.1 billion — or about $440,000 per student. It therefore ranks among the 60 to 70 colleges that would face new tax burdens if the legislation passes.

Republican leaders in the House introduced their tax reform bill on Nov. 2; the Senate rolled out its own version on Nov. 9. The endowment tax exists in both bills, along with other provisions that could impact alumni donations, student loans and tuition discounts for college employees.

"There's a lot in this bill that

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Rep. Welch Discusses House Bill

By AMELIA POLLARD
Local Editor

Tax proposals recently released separately by Republicans in the House and Senate could reshape the financial lives of millions of Vermonters if passed.. Peter Welch, a Democrat who is Vermont's lone representative in the House, articulated his opposition to the House plan in particular in a wide-ranging interview with The Campus.

Welch said he was especially struck by the discrepancy between the Republicans' claims about the tax plan — namely, how it would impact the middle class — and the reality. "If the tax bill accomplished what [House Speaker] Paul Ryan says is the goal, I'd be for it," Welch said in a phone interview on Tuesday. "The reality of the bill is 180 degrees different than what he's talking about."

In assessing the tax bills, Welch said he considered two main components: how the proposed tax plan would affect the budget deficit and whether the proposal would benefit the middle class. The proposed House bill is projected to add $2.3 billion to the

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Proctor Performance Satirizes Patton Administration

By SABINE POUX
Arts & Sciences Editor

As students filed in and out of Proctor dining hall on Monday afternoon, a group of student actors staged a performance activism piece called "Laurie's Big Apology" on Proctor Terrace. Performers played a cast of characters from the administration, board of trustees and student body, while other students handed out pamphlets detailing their demands of the administration.

The piece was created by Eliza Renner '18, Elizabeth Dunn '18, Emma Ronai-Durning '18.5 and Matea Mills-Andruk '18.5, who also helped formulate the list of demands.

The piece follows months of tensions between the administration and student body, which were evident in last Thursday's town hall.

Renner noted that although the development of "Laurie's Big Apology" began before the town hall, it reflects many of the same frustrations voiced last Thursday.

"The town hall was also just another classic example of stalling tactics and making students feel like their voices are heard when they're not," she said.

"Performance activism was just a different way of communicating our message," Dunn said. "I, and probably other people, was drawn to performance activism because I think a lot of the time activism can be very draining since it focuses on negative and painful topics, and I really wanted to do something with a group of people that was more light-hearted and fun even as it satirized a very serious topic."

"Students have protested, students have joined student councils, students have met with members of the administration, students have joined every committee, students have met with every administrator and the message isn't getting across, so this was just another tactic," Renner said.

The performance began with the entry of three Middlebury "cheerleaders" who riled the crowd with call-and-response cheers, including "When I say rhetorical, you say resilience!" and "In-clusivity! In-in-clusivity!"

Then entered Dunn, Kizzy Joseph '18 and Shaun Christean '19, who collectively portrayed Addis Fouche-Channer '17. The Campus reported in September that Fouche-Channer, who graduated last spring, claims to have been racially profiled by a public safety officer in the wake of the March 2 protests. The college disputes her account, even though a judicial official terminated the case against her in May.

Next filed in a procession of students playing college administrators, including Renner as President Patton. They were joined by two masked individuals posing as "trustees." The performers made speeches satirizing each administrator, using critiques commonly leveled against them by student activists.

"I know no one in this community would do anything to fracture this community, right?" said Renner at one point. "That includes but is not limited to chanting, spitting, yelling, breathing and sneezing. And laugh-

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EMMA STAPLETON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Students impersonate members of the administration during a performance protest held ouside of Proctor dining hall on Nov. 13.

Susan Baldridge to Step Down as Provost

By ELAINE VELIE
News Editor

Susan Baldridge will step down as provost, the chief academic officer for all Middlebury institutions, at the end of the calendar year. Baldrige will return to her position as professor of psychology after going on full leave from 2018 to 2019.

Baldrige said that her decision to step down was personal.

"Having brought the Envisioning Middlebury work to the Board for their endorsement in October was an important landmark, and the time felt right for me personally to step away, take my long-delayed leave, and think about what comes next," said Baldridge. Baldridge brought to fruition the Envisioning Middlebury strategic framework, which was ratified by the board of trustees in late October.

In an all-school email, President Laurie L. Patton announced that Jeff Cason, dean of the schools and an international studies professor, will become provost on Jan. 1. He will hold the position for 18 months, but Baldridge will assist Cason this spring while serving as provost-on-leave.

Then-president Ron Liebowitz and incoming president Laurie Patton jointly appointed Baldridge as provost in 2015. Baldridge held several other administrative positions during the previous 14 years, and before that had served as a faculty member for 10 years in the psychology department.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

"As provost, I've been lucky to be engaged in very concrete ways with some of the most strategic issues in higher education — diversity and inclusion, digital learning, affordability and access," Baldridge said.

Baldridge emphasized her efforts to create a more inclusive community.

"I'm honored to have been able to contribute to our efforts to develop a more diverse and inclusive community, both as the lead for the Creating Connections Consortium (C3) for the last several years, and more recently through my work on the BOLD initiative," Baldridge said. As provost-on-leave, she will continue work on

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SGA Institutes Financial Aid for J-Term Workshops

By BOCHU DING
Contributing Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) Finance Committee has allocated $2,500 to help students receiving financial aid pay for Winter Term workshops. The SGA has added other improvements intended to streamline the application process and improve accessibility to workshops.

Every year, the Student Activities office hosts non-credit, student-led workshops, ranging from board game building to log rolling. However, since the workshops program does not have its own budget and is entirely self-sustaining, there is a fee for enrollment.

The SGA's financial aid program was first conceptualized by former president Karina Toy '17, student activities dean Derek Doucet, and former finance committee chair Kevin Benscheidt '17 in the winter of 2016.

At the time, average enrollment costs stood at $33.50, and Toy recognized that some could impose a financial burden on students who wished to participate.

The previous model relied on a two-step reimbursement process, which caused a number of students who could not register in time to lose their aid opportunity. Under the SGA's new policy, the aid application is embedded in the registration process for the Winter Term workshops.

"There will be no upfront payment required and aid awardees will not be billed," said Jin Sohn '18, the current SGA president. "Students' spots will be held in the workshop until their eligibility for aid has been confirmed. In order to maintain confidentiality the SGA will never see the names of students who apply for or receive aid, nor any of their financial information."

The finance committee, including chair Peter Dykeman-Bermingham '18.5 and deputy chair Isabella Martus '19, worked with Doucet and the financial aid office to implement a model that both protected students' privacy and made it convenient to apply for aid.

"[We] wanted to remove any perceived social stigma from applying. We all know that issues of socioeconomic status are present on our campus, and we were concerned that students might be reluctant to apply if they thought

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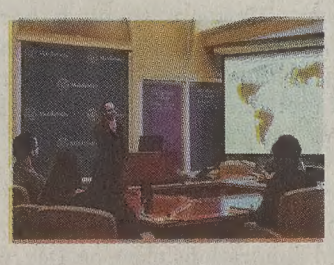

Professor gives lecture on judicial power
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Elle Varner enchants during fall concert
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SPORTS

Field hockey advances to NCAA final four
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BALDRIDGE RESIGNS, TO RESUME TEACHING

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the C3 faculty diversity and BOLD women's leadership initiatives.

As provost, Baldridge also worked on fiscal management. In her email, Patton praised Baldridge for her work on decreasing the operating deficit. Baldridge echoed this sentiment. "I'm pleased and encouraged by the progress we've been able to make toward financial sustainability," she said.

Baldridge expressed confidence in the administration to achieve its goals.

"Administrators are frequently asked, often incredulously, why anyone would want to take on one of these roles. The challenges can be significant, the hours are long, and it is virtually impossible to make everyone happy," Baldridge said. "But it's also an opportunity to be able to serve the community, protect and enhance our educational mission, and shape the institution's future. And I know that Jeff and my other administrative colleagues will be working diligently to achieve those same goals."

Students Parody Administrators in Skit

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ing."

Renner also referenced the administration's use of committees to address the concerns of students.

"We are thrilled to announce a very exciting development," she said. "That's right. We are implementing a new focus group that will form a subcommittee on inclusivity at Middlebury."

Renner made overtures toward an apology but was stopped when Tyler McDowell '19, playing college spokesman Bill Burger, rode onto the terrace on a toy car. The three Addises then gave testimonies to their innocence from the March 2 protests.

After these testimonies, McDowell discouraged any admission of guilt from Renner.

"You needn't apologize, you're the administrator!" he said.

The administrators then walked off the terrace and left Alex Rodgers '20.5, playing Judicial Affairs Officers Karen Guttentag and Brian Lind, to point and yell "You get probation!" into the crowd.

The piece was playful, but Renner was careful to ensure that it complied with college guidelines and that was not mean-spirited.

"I think as a community we can call each other out and we can criticize each other, and it doesn't mean we don't love each other," she said. "I have gratitude for a lot of members of the administration, and I care so much about the people that make up this campus, and so I have no interest in doing something that's fueled by making fun of someone."

Renner also made clear that the performers acknowledge the constraints the administration is under from the trustees, who were looming figures in the piece.

"We don't want to vilify the administration and we are not trying to say that this is all President Patton's fault," she said. "So yes, President Patton needs to apologize, but we recognize the pressure she's under, and she isn't some singular unit."

College spokesman Bill Burger declined to comment.

A full video of the piece can be found at middleburycampus.com.

Endowment Shows Strong Earnings in 2017 Fiscal Year

By NICOLE POLLACK
Contributing Writer

Middlebury's endowment increased by $74 million in the 2017 fiscal year after an investment return of 13.8 percent, ending the year totaling $1.074 billion. This year's figure represents an improvement over the previous year's return rate of −4.5 percent.

Middlebury withdrew $68.5 million from its endowment last year, which funded the college, the Institute of International Studies at Monterey, Middlebury Language Schools, Schools Abroad, the School of the Environment, the Bread Loaf School of English and the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference.

In an April 2017 article entitled "Rises in Financial Aid Cause Deficits," The Campus reported that recent budget deficits had compelled the college to cut spending and attempt to raise endowment funds. Escalating financial aid expenditures were largely responsible for the deficits.

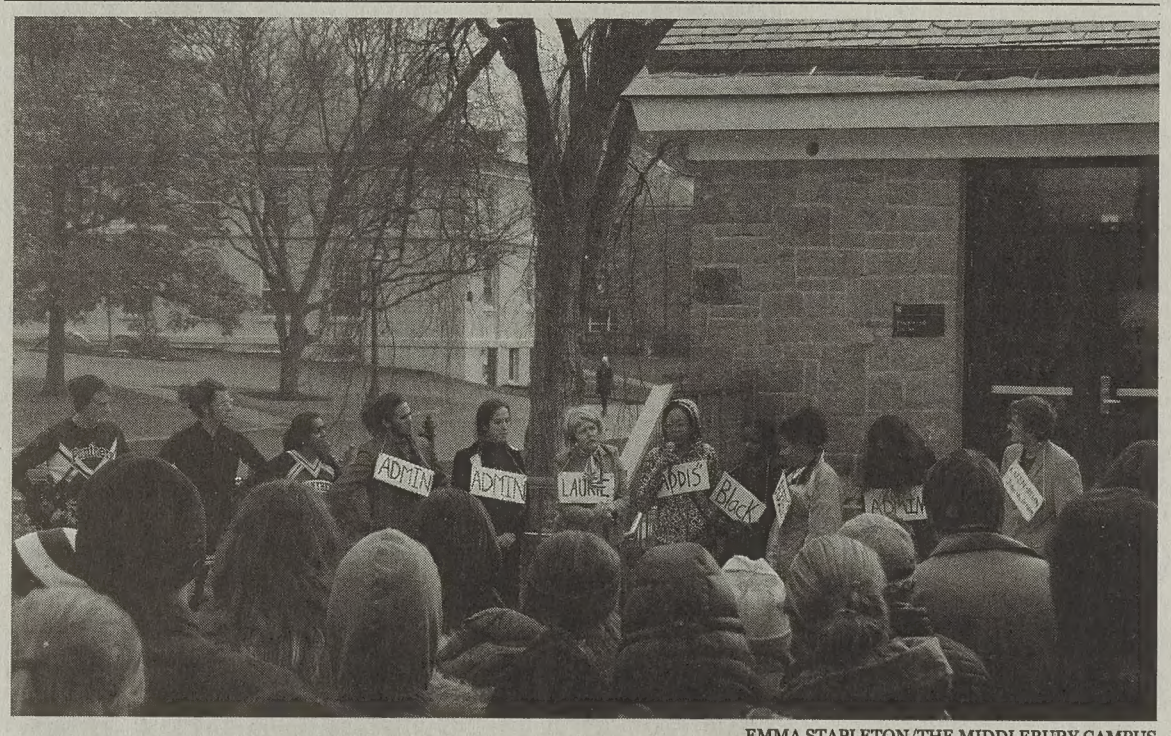
While Middlebury aims to admit classes with approximately 42 percent of students on financial aid, this percentage has risen significantly in recent years as a result of the adoption of a need-blind admissions process. Roughly 48 percent of the classes of 2018 and 2019 receive financial aid.

Although the rise in expenses initially caused budgetary strain, Middlebury opted to remain need-blind and reduce spending in other areas.

College treasurer David Provost noted that this year's endowment gains will not drastically increase financial aid money specifically, and that the college will continue to rely on gifts to fund financial aid.

"This [year's gain] is compared to a net decrease in endowment of −$100 million in 2015 to 2016. So any one year investment return will not necessarily provide new sources of funds for financial aid," he said in an email.

"Having said that, financial aid continues to grow at a higher rate (8.5%) than tuition and fees (5%), and we expect that to continue. The long-term strategy has to be that we grow the endowment specifically from gifts for financial aid, and President Patton is committed to leading us in that direction."



EMMA STAPLETON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
People gathered outside Proctor Dining Hall to watch a student performance, titled "Laurie's Big Apology."

DISPATCH FROM MONTEREY

By CAITLIN TOWERS
Monterey Correspondent

On October 29, the Middlebury Institute hosted the Monterey Bay Foreign Language Education Symposium, an annual conference for language teachers. Presenters travelled from as far as Georgia and New York City to give workshops and share teaching tips at the event, and throughout the day almost 100 language teachers, administrators, and teachers-in-training attended a wide variety of presentations and workshops. The symposium began with a plenary where the Middlebury Institute's own Thor Sawin, a professor in the TESOL/TFL program, introduced and discussed the conference's theme Making Language Relevant.

After a jam-packed day of sessions such as Designing Classes with the Whole Brain in Mind and Helping ESL Students Deal with Discriminatory Practices, participants attended a panel discussion on careers with languages and a closing reception. This annual symposium is organized and run by teams of current students at the Middlebury Institute in the TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), TFL (Teaching Foreign Language) and IEM (International Educational Management) programs.

That same week, Vladimir Pozner, a Russian journalist and author who the Middlebury Institute has been lucky enough to host multiple times, came to give a series of lectures on campus. His first open lecture, How to Understand the Russian Soul, was interpreted simultaneously by students in the translation and interpretation program into multiple languages. He emphasized the importance of seeing a country for more than just their politics, explaining that the things that contribute to the character of a nation are bigger than their current political administration. The Russian soul, he explained, can be explored much better through literature, history and humor than it can through the news.

Pozner's next lecture, How U.S. Policy Contributed to the Rise of President Vladimir Putin, was delivered in English. Both lectures emphasized the dire effects of cultural misunderstandings and misconceptions, and Pozner asserted that relations between the United States and Russia have never been worse than they are right now.

Discussions of the misunderstandings that lead to larger conflicts were not limited to Pozner's lectures; two sensitivity training sessions were also conducted on campus last week. They were organized by The Center for Conflict Studies, and were a part of an Allies at MIIS project on campus. Amber McZeal and David Ragland were the trainers for this year's sessions. McZeal is an activist and organizer who approaches her work with a decolonial lens, while Ragland is a co-founder and co-director of The Truth Telling Project and a blogger for the Huffington Post.

The session explored ways to engage in difficult conversations and approach issues of power, privilege, oppression, peace and progressive change while creating dialogues, rather than suppressing them. The training was free and there was one session open to students and another for faculty and staff. Participants were encouraged to take steps towards the creation and maintenance of spaces for critical, respectful, and necessary conversations as we seek to create and foster an even more inclusive and aware campus community and world as a whole.

Endowment Tax Worries Administrators

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Provost, the college's treasurer. "It's clear that they're coming after us."

Bill Burger, the college's spokesman, articulated the college's opposition to the endowment tax.

"Middlebury's endowment, like the endowments of other schools, sustain generous financial aid programs that make a high-quality education available to admitted students regardless of their ability to pay," he said. "The perverse consequence of an endowment tax would be to shift the burden of the cost of higher education to the families that are least able to afford it."

Provost estimates that a tax of 1.4 percent could have reduced the college's investment income by up to $600,000 in the past year.

"Our average financial aid package is $45,000," he said. "That's 12 or 13 students where we wouldn't have money to give financial aid."

Beyond this immediate impact, the college is concerned that passing an endowment tax could embolden Congress to levy additional taxes against private colleges in the future, or to simply raise the endowment tax rate far above 1.4 percent.

"If it starts at 1.4 percent, what's to say that they won't make it 5 or 10 percent?" Provost said. "Once it's in place, where does it stop?"

The endowment tax is not the only provision that has drawn the college's attention. Both the House and Senate plans call for a significant increase in taxpayers' standard deduction, which would reduce the incentive to make tax-deductible charitable contributions, such as donations to Middlebury.

"We have a high participation rate of alumni that give," Provost said. While this provision would not severely harm the college's finances, "in the context of keeping alumni engaged, it could sting."

Next, the House bill would eliminate the student loan interest deduction, which currently allows student borrowers to reduce their yearly tax burden by up to $2,500. The Senate bill leaves this deduction intact.

Finally, the House bill would repeal tax breaks for employer-funded educational assistance. Currently, faculty and staff can receive tax-exempt tuition assistance from the college, helping them, or a dependent, take college classes or pursue a degree. This provision, like the student loan deductions, would not impact Middlebury as an institution, but could negatively impact college employees who benefit from the deduction.

Provost, who spent the past weekend at Swarthmore College discussing the tax plan with financial officers from other small liberal arts colleges, said that Middlebury's senior administrators would meet this week to develop an official response to the legislation. Options could include releasing a joint statement of opposition alongside other selective liberal arts colleges.

Republicans in Congress, anxious for a legislative victory, hope to pass tax reform before the mid-December recess. The House could vote on its bill this week, and is expected to pass it; the Senate is still finalizing details on its own plan, which will likely encounter more opposition. If both bills pass, GOP leaders from both houses would then need to collaborate on a final bill to send to President Trump's desk.

"I think it's fair to say that higher education's view of these tax proposals is well understood in the halls of Congress," Burger said. "It's sad that this issue has become so politicized. We hope that the Senate, in particular, will be a place where sound public policy can emerge on this issue."

NEW FINANCIAL AID FOR WINTER TERM WORKSHOPS

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their peers would be involved in any way in the application process," Doucet said.

"We therefore needed to come up with a way to ensure it was only college staff who reviewed the applications, while still providing transparency so the SGA could see, in general terms, how their money was spent."

In the new model, the Student Activities office collects aid applications and cross-checks with the Student Financial Services office to ensure that the applications meet the criteria set forth by the SGA. By serving as the only line of communication with applicants, the Student Activities aims to ensure confidentiality of student financial aid status.

In addition, Doucet worked to ensure that SGA assistance would not impact recipients' overall financial aid status.

Dykeman-Bermingham hopes the program will enable more students to participate in a quintessential aspect of Middlebury.

"J-Term workshops are Middlebury's most explicit format for students to learn from their peers. They are so often odd, fun filled monuments of student passion and they should be part of everyone's Middlebury experience," he said.

Registration for the workshops begin midnight on Sunday, Nov. 19, and end on Sunday, Dec. 17. Aid applications close on Dec. 9, and are awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Peter Welch Condemns GOP Tax Plan

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budget deficit and strip a range of popular itemized deductions that taxpayers rely on each year.

One of the dubious justifications made by Republicans for the tax plan, Welch said, is that by lowering the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 20 percent, firms will reap new profits and eventually increase wages. "There's literally no empirical support for that claim," he said. "There's no indication that this tax bill, with a corporate tax cut, would somehow result in pay raises from the workers, and that's a big claim that Ryan and the Republicans are making."

Welch notes that, across the board, 80 percent of the benefits from the tax plan would accrue to the wealthiest one percent of Americans. "You're going to have 99 percent of taxpayers fighting for the crumbs," Welch said. "They're saying it's going to benefit the middle class, but they can't prove that."

The elimination of the estate tax would play a major role in that disparity. Doing away with the estate tax would only impact two in 1,000 Americans, providing a significant tax break to estates worth more than $1 million. Welch said that although these properties are appreciating in value over time, the capital gains are never taxed as the inheritors would receive the market value for the estate at the time of death.

Itemized deductions — eligible expenses that taxpayers can claim in order to reduce their taxable income — have also been slashed under the House proposal. Medical costs, nursing home expenses, school supplies purchased by teachers out of pocket, student loan interest, state and local income tax— all of which were previously deductible on federal income taxes — have been collectively removed in the most recent House bill.

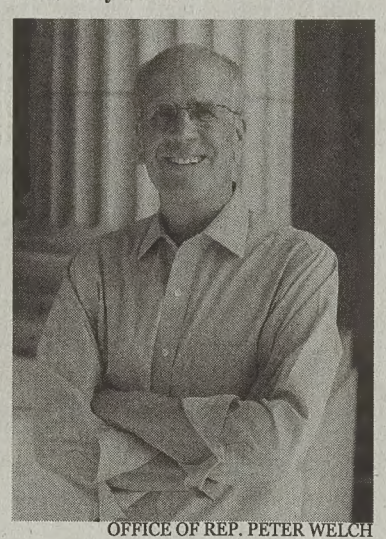
The bill also contains certain provisions that disproportionately affect certain regions of the country. In the House plan, for example, damage caused by wildfires and earthquakes would no longer be deductible from taxable income, although wreckage from most hurricanes would be.

"If you lost your home in the California fires, you can't deduct your loss," Welch said. "And that feels very much like an attack on a 'blue state.' Flood or fire, you still lost your house, so why can you deduct the loss in one case and not the other?"

Another striking aspect of the House's tax proposal is a lack of transparency in its drafting process, Welch asserted. Although most legislation is crafted following a series of open hearings to allow for public input, this tax bill was drafted entirely in secret in the Speaker's office. Most House members, including many Republicans and members of the Ways and Means Committee, were unaware of the plan until it was formally proposed in the House.

"The problem with a bill written in secret is that you can't have public input into the whole process," Welch said. "It creates a situation where you're not focusing as much on the policy as you are on chasing votes to get to the magic number of 218 in the House."

Using a procedure called the "closed rule," Republican leaders have denied the opportunity for any member to oppose an amendment to the existing bill, he said. As a result, Welch, along with Vermont Senators Bernie Sanders and Patrick Leahy, have tried to raise public awareness to combat what they call a disastrous bill.



OFFICE OF REP. PETER WELCH

"Our effort is to get as much public awareness of what's in the bill and how bad it is so that there's a reaction of how the bill increases inequality, adds to the debt and fails to promote economic growth," Welch said.

Welch suspects that Republicans are determined, and willing, to pass any tax bill in order to claim success following months of failed and stalled legislative efforts.

In summarizing his greatest concerns about the bill, Welch highlighted the trend between both tax bills: an attempt to compensate for losses stemming from the elimination of the estate tax by hurting the middle class.

"These eliminations are a direct take-away from the middle class and it's hard to justify that under any circumstances," Welch said. "And most egregiously for taking away these benefits to pay for the elimination of the estate tax for billionaires."

Welfare programs will feel the most immediate repercussion from the cuts, Welch contended. In the long-term, however, he noted that the bills' effect on the federal deficit could negatively impact future generations.

"We're borrowing money to pay for the tax cuts, and the people benefiting from it won't be paying for it," Rep. Welch said. "By driving up the deficit, it's going to put enormous pressure on Medicaid and Medicare and Social Security programs."

Edgewater Gallery Adds New Location

By BRIDGET COLLITON
Local Editor

STOWE — On Friday, Dec. 8, the Edgewater Gallery will open a new location in Stowe, Vermont. This will be the fourth location for the franchise, which currently operates two locations in Middlebury, Vermont, and one in Bozeman, Montana.

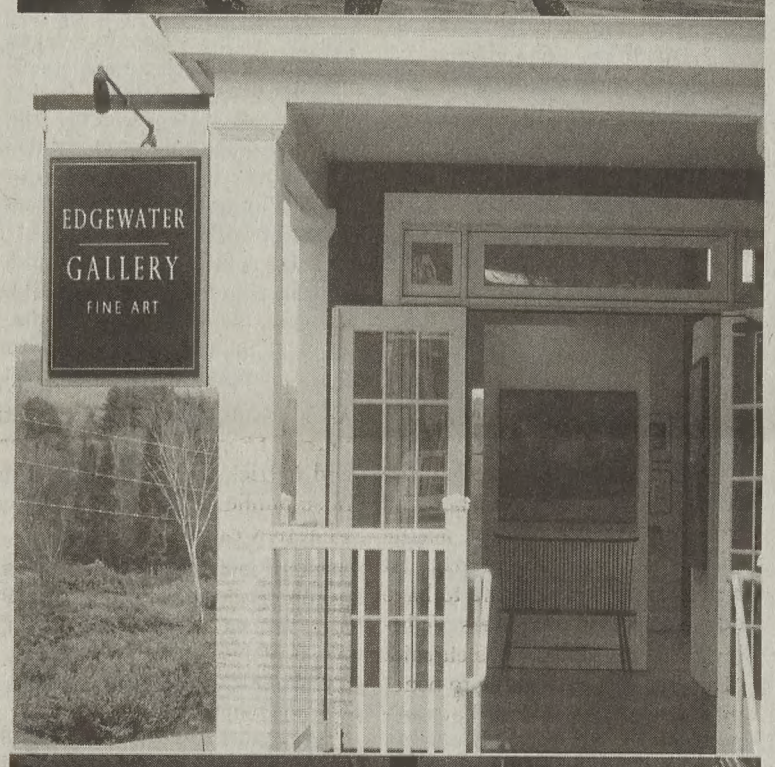
Dalton Hartye, marketing and design manager for Edgewater Galleries, cited the large number of artists exhibiting work in the galleries and the need to alternate peak seasons as the main reason they chose Stowe over Burlington for the new gallery.

"We thought that Stowe would be a better location due to the fact that we could then have alternating peak seasons. The summer and fall in Middlebury is a more popular season. In Stowe it's the opposite," Hartye said.

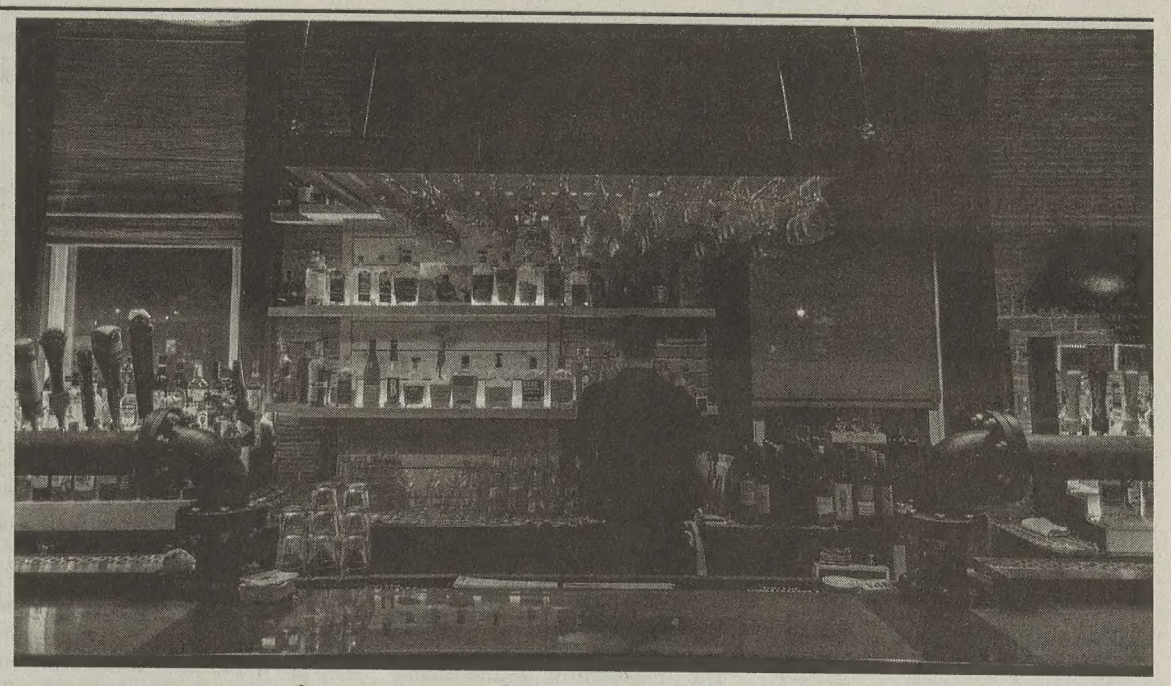
Each location features a different aesthetic. The On the Green location in Middlebury carries relatively larger pieces as its larger size can accommodate them, while the Middlebury Falls location carries smaller works. The Stowe gallery will serve as a combination of artists featured in both the On the Green location and the Middlebury Falls location. It will include wood block prints by Matt Brown, a local artist, and a large sculptural piece by Jonathon Evenger.

"It is definitely on the smaller [side], the smallest of the three in Vermont, but we do have a large amount of work up there, and we are constantly adding new work to that location," Hartye said.

Edgewater Galleries are teaming up with Lamoile County United Way to host the grand opening of the Stowe location on Dec. 8, from 5 to 7 p.m.



The new Edgewater Gallery in Stowe, Vt.



You're In for a Wild Ride: Rough Cut Replaces 51 Main

By AMELIA POLLARD
Local Editor

MIDDLEBURY — After reinventing the space and installing a prominent new bar, Rough Cut opened its doors last Saturday, Nov. 11, at 51 Main's old site. The new space, adorned with brick walls, wooden trim and hanging light fixtures, provides a warm atmosphere and an amber glow.

After nine years of operation, the college sold 51 Main to Ben Wells, owner of the Marquis Theatre for the past three years. Wells noticed a lack of Southern comfort food in the area and has swept in to fix that. Wells has managed restaurants in Boston, Jackson, Wyoming, and Boulder, Colorado, and has now taken on the prominently featured space on Main Street.

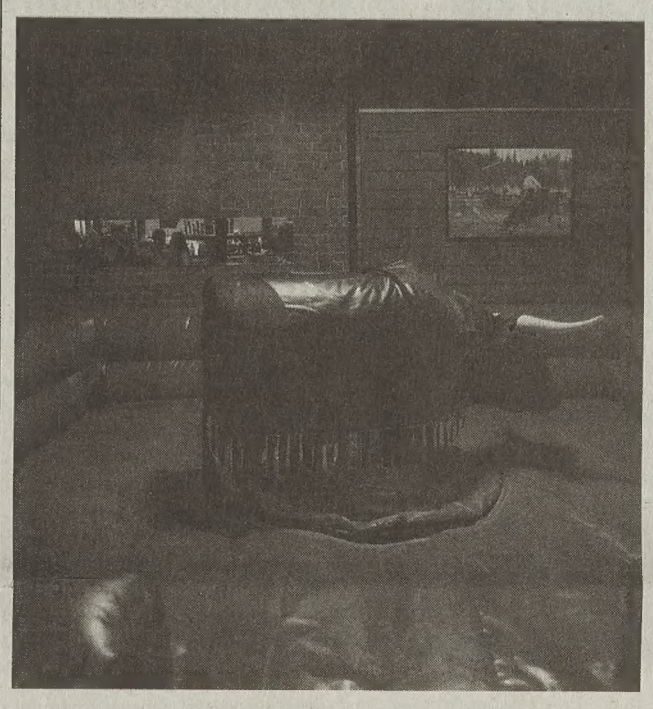
Since taking on the Marquis, Wells has made a notable effort to make the theater an integral part of the community. He says that he hopes to do the same with Rough Cut.

"One of my philosophies with the restaurant is that the word 'restaurant' actually comes from the old French word 'to restore,'" Wells said. "People enjoy going out and having a fun time in a positive, warm, energetic environment."

Wells is hoping to reinvent the lower level of the restaurant, too. The College had used the downstairs for storage and office space, but Wells plans to eventually repurpose the space into a performance venue.

The team has been experimenting with different types of wood and spices for their selection of smoked barbecued meat. The restaurant also emphasizes its beers and bourbon cocktails. The bar features as many as 12 beers on tap and has created a batch of specialty cocktails.

As the restaurant establishes itself in the coming weeks, Wells intends to bring some more vitality to Main Street. "It's really important to me — small town, small communities," Wells said. "If we as community members and business owners aren't involved, then who is?"



AIDAN ACOSTA

A mechanical bull (left) at Rough Cut. Ben Wells, owner, and Sara Giard, partner and general manager.

Federal Cuts Threaten Vt. Homelessness Programs

By NICK HUNNEWELL
Contributing Writer

Many in the college community are familiar with the Charter House Coalition on North Pleasant Street, a volunteer-based community home that aims to provide food and housing free of charge to those in need. Few, however, are aware that there is a significantly larger subsidized housing facility beyond the village center on the eastern end of town.

The Vermont State Housing Authority's Middlebury outpost is located among fields, partially obscured by trees. It generally maintains a low profile besides the small sign by the driveway reading "Middlebury Commons — VSHA." This building is the nearest location of the Vermont State Housing Authority (VSHA), and it is currently at capacity with 126 middle-aged to elderly individuals.

One of the VSHA's dozens of sites, Middlebury Commons is specifically tasked with providing housing for the low-income, rural elderly. Built with support from the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program, the facility receives federal funding from the Section 515 Rural Rental Housing Program — a government program authorized as a part of the Housing Act of 1949. The purpose of the Section 515 program is to provide housing to a range of low-income families and elderly people with disabilities in rural regions across the U.S.

As a funded location under the Section 515 Rural Rental Housing Program, the Middlebury Commons is also an eligible location for tenants to receive subsidized rent under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Assistance Program. Individuals qualify for increasing amounts of rent subsidy depending on what percentage of the Area Median Income (AMI) their income is. Bracketed in 80-percent-of-AMI, 60-percent-of-AMI and 30-percent-of-AMI groupings, the Rural Development Assistance Program gives priority to tenants in the 30-percent-and-below tier.

The most recent Vermont Housing Authority homeless persons count recorded 92 individuals in Addison County. This population, measured in January 2017, is a point-in-time count that does not account for the hundreds of precariously housed individuals in the county. The primary purpose of the VSHA is to, using facilities like Middlebury Commons, provide aid to the homeless and precariously housed of Vermont.

The future of the Middlebury VSHA location is currently in debate. The Trump administration's Departments of Agriculture and Housing and Urban Development plan to defund the Vermont Housing Authority as well as to eliminate completely the Section 515 Rural Rental Housing Program that allows so many Middlebury Commons tenants to pay their rent.

"We don't know the [federal] appropriation process that happens... until they pass the budget we just won't know. "

KATHLEEN BERK

DIRECTOR OF THE VSHA HOUSING PROGRAM

The revised budget of the Department of Housing and Urban Development reduces overall budget by roughly $6.835 billion. This decrease of nearly 15% means that agencies like the VSHA, which received 93% of its funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, will feel the cuts directly.

Kathleen Berk, director of the VSHA Housing Program's administration, spoke to the impact these cuts may have on the organization.

"We really are dependent on federal funding," Berk said. "We don't know the [federal] appropriation process that happens, so there [are] concerns, ... [and] until they pass the budget we just won't know."

The problem is not confined to Addison County. Addison County's immediate neighbors Chittenden County and Rutland County have Vermont's highest homeless persons counts, according to the VSHA's 2017 tally. Rutland County, to Addison County's south, recorded an estimated 183 homeless individuals. To the North, Chittenden County, with Burlington at its center, is estimated to have at least 291 homeless persons.

The VSHA estimates Vermont to have a total homeless population of roughly 1,225. In 2007, at the very outset of the Great Recession, the homeless population was double its current level, comprising an estimated 2,515 individuals. To make matters worse, Vermont had the highest homelessness rate in New England, which, at 3.4 percent of the population, was a full 30 percent higher than the next-highest rate, found in Massachusetts.

In the decade that has elapsed since 2007, homelessness in Vermont has decreased remarkably thanks to programs like the VSHA. Berk explained that these cuts will reduce the VSHA's ability to mitigate homelessness the way it has.

"It's money that we really need to operate our programs," she said.

In the meantime, the VSHA will continue to work to reduce homelessness in Vermont. Where government funding may be lacking, state funding and a strong economy could potentially help to maintain aid while mitigating the issue. Nonetheless, homelessness is likely to grow as a once-under-the-radar issue that, in the near future, will increase in a palpable way.

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Beyond the Town Hall

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Last Thursday, Nov. 9, hundreds of members of the Middlebury community gathered in Mead Chapel for a town hall meeting. The event was originally planned by Women of Color and the Black Student Union with support from SGA and was subsequently co-opted by the administration, who claimed it had been already planned. While it was presented as a "community conversation," it was more of a Q&A for students who wanted answers from the administration.

The unstructured nature of the forum allowed for administrators to dodge questions posed by students. Instead of one answer for one question, the microphone was passed around among students. Every few questions, an administrator would answer selectively. This was in part from the stream of questions and the inability to answer due to legal reasons. Either way, there was common theme of answering the least inflammatory part of questions posed. (Please look to the News section of this paper for a selected transcription of the event.)

The town hall meeting was an example of students' qualms with administration coming to fruition — the primary issue in question being defensiveness. While the event was intended to be a conversation, flyers handed out listed the accomplishments of the administration. In an event framed to have a primary goal of listening, we find it specious to bring a planned response and hand out a rap sheet at the door. If there was in fact transparency, there would be no need to set up a line of defense before the conversation began.

Administrators' primary response to stories shared and questions asked were to express how hurt they were, rather than asking why students felt that way or how they reached conclusions. This response stopped the conversation, making it about administrators' feelings, rather than the issue that presumably brought us all there.

This town hall meeting clearly demonstrated the need for more transparency on the part of administrators. One of the most common responses from administration was, "we're working on it, but we can't share." This frustrates us as students, deterring us from working to move forward because we don't know how much progress is being made.

The need for transparency is not new; students have been asking for it long before the Charles Murray fiasco. We understand there are some questions that cannot be answered due to legal reasons. At the same time, leaving us in the dark forces students to make uninformed demands or actions that could be more complete if there was a better understanding of situations. Students should not have to visit deep corners of the Middlebury website or come to town halls to ascertain how the school is improving.

The administration also needs to match the vulnerability of the students who share their stories. At the meeting, speakers noted that this issue goes beyond what happened to Addis Fouche-Channer. Many students have been vulnerable in public and private arenas, without much resolve from the administration. Administrators say they appreciate the vulnerability of students who routinely share their stories, but fail to give them the same courtesy.

These "community conversations" then become spaces where students retelling stories of hardship and silence are met with sighs and shaking heads. This is not to say administrators need to match students' stories with their own, but preplanned answers to complex questions are certainly not the answer.

While the town hall brought light to issues students have been talking about for years, it did not leave its attendees with a concrete understanding of where to go. If anything, it was cathartic and allowed students to give an uncensored and unobstructed message to the administration. But the work is not done there, especially since the administration is notorious for listening to students share their thoughts and stories without doing anything to follow it, other than make a committee.

Other than a need for increased vulnerability and transparency on the part of administration, we have suggestions for moving forward.

Administrators should not look to students to do their jobs. Students have done the work to provide frustrations, reasons and ideas to the administration on multiple occasions. The task is now to listen. If students are not presenting reasonable ideas, tell them. If there is information that would make students' ideas better, tell them.

Marginalized groups are putting down effort and showing why they're uncomfortable, often with no return. Further, all members of the community should be informed of the feelings and sentiments that students at the town hall shared. We cannot move forward if some of us are ignorant of the problems a significant amount of our community face.

Whether we encourage cultural sensitivity training beyond the first year or invite students to bias training for faculty and staff, we need to all come to this conversation. We all need to continue to come because the work is not done. Instead of asking why people are sharing "negative" stories, ask why the stories exist. Ask what you can do to decrease the amount of stories or care for those who have been affected by oppression.

Everyone can see the administration is trying. We cannot call on the administration to fix racism. We can call on them to make concrete steps to combat institutional racism here, now, at Middlebury College. This is a difficult ask but not an unrealistic one, considering this is the work for which administrators are paid.

Students are paying and going into debt to be here. It is not the job of marginalized, or really any, students to fix the problems they did not cause. We've seen plenty of disingenuous promises and productive discourse; now let's make some concrete plans.

The content written within the Opinions pages may cause emotional distress. Please exercise discretion.

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The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign CS5 and is printed by the Press Republican in New York. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

I COVER THE WATERFRONT

On Finding Bibles

By WILL DIGRAVIO
Managing Editor

In a class last week, I co-led a discussion on "Travesties," Tom Stoppard's play partly inspired by "The Importance of Being Earnest." Being the studious student I am, I brought with me "The Collected Works of Oscar Wilde" in case I needed to reference his work and/or pretend to be more well-read than I am.

As I pulled the book out of my backpack and threw it on the table, without thinking I said, "I brought the Bible!" One classmate half-chuckled.

Though my remark was made in jest, the more I thought about it, the more it felt like the truth. Having been raised without religion, for me, the Bible is just another book. So, my self-proclaimed joke about Wilde got me thinking, "What is my Bible?"

It could be Wilde's collected works. His essays and novel have informed my view of art more than any other, and "The Importance of Being Earnest" is more or less the reason I study drama. But what else could it be?

Perhaps it is "United States: Essays 1952–1992," Gore Vidal's gargantuan collection of essays, which to my mind, is the gold standard for U.S. political commentary. Whether you agree with Vidal's views doesn't matter, he is a master craftsman and the first writer I turn to for perspective on the 20th century. As much as I admire Vidal and treasure his body of work, his essays can't be my Bible, can they?

If I were to answer the question ironically, I suppose my Bible could be "God Is Not Great" by Christopher Hitchens, the writer whose words first made me feel comfortable in my lifelong disbelief.

Maybe it's "Harry Potter," the series to which I have the strongest emotional connection, the books that first taught me about friendship, perseverance and loss.

Last week, as part of an internship application, I was asked to name my favorite book. I went with my gut reaction: "In Cold Blood." It's one I discovered after a rough first semester at Middlebury, when I ordered a stack of books from Amazon. Truman Capote's seminal piece of new journalism was packaged on top, so I read it. I now have a personal connection to the novel because it came at a time when I needed to temporarily leave our world for a different one.

And that's the one thing all these books, and others, and some I have yet to find, have in common: They've been there for me when I needed them, when I needed guidance, reaffirmation or to escape. They're my Bibles.

Our Community in Context

By KYLE WRIGHT
Community Council Co-Chair

Last spring, I was elected by the student body to co-chair Community Council. This is sometimes surprising to me given how few students know what Community Council is. I can't help but also notice that Community Council is sometimes nebulous for faculty and staff. In this column, I will share and reflect on conversations and questions that arise weekly in Community Council. I welcome you to work through them with me and my partners from Community Council.

I want to begin this week's column by explaining what Community Council is. Community Council is "a forum in which all segments of the college community have a voice on nonacademic issues on campus." We are a diverse group of students, faculty and staff. We meet weekly on Mondays at 4:30 in Axinn 104. We deliberate over current issues. We recommend action to members of the administration. We are committed to having conversations that include all segments of our community and propose specific, well-considered and actionable solutions. We are uniquely effective in our ability to bring together the many experiences that constitute Middlebury and pursue positive, community-based change.

Our forum is underutilized by community members who are seeking to air grievances and propose solutions to issues they have experienced. Part of this, I'm sure, is due to bad advertising and a general lack of common knowledge surrounding governance at Middlebury. At this time in particular, I find it important to encourage a greater awareness of forums like Community Council.

Middlebury, at present, faces both a crisis of identity and a crisis of connection. Neither are mutually exclusive. Our lack of capacity to create what associate dean of students Doug Adams calls "effective vehicles" for people to express their needs facilitates our crisis of connection with one another. This, in turn, facilitates our crisis of identity which is further stoked by a refusal to acknowledge our institutional history of overt exclusion.

We need better conversational spaces to reflect on that history, to understand it and apologize for it. We also need to reconcile our current culture of exclusion and division. This part must be a conversation. It must be conversation that acknowledges power and privilege. It must be a conversation that acknowledges who is unable to participate. It must be a conversation that is founded on a willingness to understand, not an eagerness to retort.

I enthusiastically encourage you to work towards those conversations with us, in person or otherwise, and to participate in coalition wherever it may occur, be it in your teams, clubs, dinners with friends, or meetings with colleagues. You can contact us at ccouncil@middlebury.edu. We eagerly await your participation.

From the President's Desk

By LAURIE PATTON
President of the College

In recent weeks there has been much discussion on our campus about Middlebury policies and processes prohibiting acts of discrimination and harassment, including those based on race. I write today to state clearly my position and the position of my administration.

I am steadfastly committed to rooting out discrimination, bias and harassment. Our Title IX/Compliance Office is charged to do that work and is given independence to ensure it can reach its conclusions based on the facts alone, without political pressure or outside influence. We are fortunate to have dedicated and experienced staff in our Title IX/Compliance Office. As a person and as the president, I have complete confidence in their work, their thoroughness and their integrity. I and my administration fully support the conclusions they arrive at through their investigations.

As was described at Thursday's forum co-sponsored by the SGA and the BSU, my administration is always open to hearing suggestions about how to improve policies and procedures. If you wish to join the student policy advisory group working with dean of students Baishakhi Taylor and general counsel Hannah Ross, please be in touch with one of them the end of Friday, Dec. 1 (taylorb@middlebury.edu and/or hross@middlebury.edu). Sue Ritter, Middlebury's Title IX coordinator, also shared on Thursday evening that her job is to always be available to meet with members of our community about our policies and processes. If you're interested in talking with her, please email her at sritter@middlebury.edu by the end of the day, Friday, Dec. 15, to allow meetings to be scheduled in January. As always, all are also welcome to offer suggestions to our various representative bodies, such as Staff Council, Faculty Council, the Student Government Association and others.

I hope that through these efforts we not only will be able to respond to reports of bias, discrimination and harassment effectively, but proactively build a culture in which those acts are increasingly rare.

On Critique

By NIA ROBINSON
Opinion Editor

There has not been room to talk about the importance of students' roles in this issue with administration, so I'm going to make it. For context, this will stay aligned with Thursday's town hall, but is applicable to other situations.

First I want to thank students who share and continue to give effort that often seems unmet. I am proud of the work that gets produced. You are all valid in your frustrations and anger and most times I share it. However, I think we need to be intentional in the way we approach direct conversations with the administration.

Sometimes our questions or criticisms are presented as character attacks that are most times unnecessary. If you present a question to someone that is rooted in their character, how do you expect them to respond other than being defensive? Problems with and critiques of departments or institutions should stay there. Yes, people make up institutions and carry our department policies, but there is a better way to talk about that other than diving into character attack. While there is bravery found in asking questions and demanding answers, it is not as present in backing someone into a corner and being dissatisfied by the way they try to get themselves out. With administrators who are women specifically, I similar threads to the way we talked about Hillary Clinton and other woman in power to them. There is an inherent power dynamic present between students and administrators, but the way we call it out sometimes veers into being rooted in sexist expectations.

Secondly, students need to do their homework and understand the jobs of administrators to make arguments hold more weight. For example, I think a lot of the anger we have that is directed at President Patton may be better suited for the communications office or the board of trustees. Understanding the role of the president, I think we sometimes forget Old Chapel is filled with adults who make their own decisions concerning their jobs. So, if there is an issue with faculty, go to the person in charge of that. Further, we also cannot get mad when administrators do their jobs, especially when we don't understand them. To qualify this, I think the communications office does its job very well, which is why students are upset.

I see some of the demands and needs for change as band-aids that replicate the same structure students go against. For example, firing Bill Burger would put someone else in his place that may replicate the same issues students see. Instead, how can departments or policies be restructured as to not produce the same results?

The students are not alone in their need for improvement. I don't think it is the job of students to make improvements, especially since the ones who are putting in effort are at the receiving end of what needs to be changed. Some suggestions to start alleviating the process is to send out and post the list and pictures of what each administrator does — like the ones that were present at the lunch tables last spring. Also, continuously share what changes are happening, so students can inform their demands and questions.

We all need to be better listeners. We all need to improve the questions we ask. I hope my peers don't see this me being "against them." That is not the case. I see and feel your frustrations, but just like the administration is not perfect, our methods can be improved too.

Tensions Arise at Open Forum Called by Pres. Patton

(Continued from Page A1)

includes our acting according to racial stereotypes, acting in ways that serve to alienate. We have not acknowledged that enough. I want to acknowledge that hurt. I am deeply sorry that members of our community are in pain, and that people feel they have not been heard by the administration. It is our job to make better structures and more equitable relationships where voices can be heard and where people feel that they belong. It is our job to make a more inclusive public square where not just individual acts of bias but structural racism can be addressed and challenged.

"Middlebury can and should be a challenging place where we experience intellectual discomfort, and part of that discomfort includes listening to unheard voices better. For students who live here at Middlebury for only four years, this can take on a particular sense of urgency. We are working on many ways to address this and look forward to sharing those with you, but most importantly, today we need your help and creativity and thoughts.

"We also look forward, as Jin said, to follow up conversations from this one, to continue to visit student groups in dining halls, commons houses and other meeting spaces such as AFC, and to continue to move forward with concrete actions and timelines where we can work together both what our community is and what our community means to us. Together, I do believe with all the hard work we can build a new Middlebury. Thank you for bringing your voices to help begin that task today."

Wengel Kifle ('20): "Thank you so much for coming. When we discuss the current state of our campus, it's important to keep in mind what happened this past spring. Many students voiced deep and urgent pleas to Middlebury concerningL not only Charles Murray, but also the deeply ingrained institutional and social aspects of Middlebury that do not make it a welcoming and inclusive space for students of color.

"After the start of this semester, there have been more events that have made students of color feel uncomfortable and unsafe. These events include the racial profiling of Addis; violent and explicit images and messages on chalkboards in Munroe directed toward Addis, racial profiling of a black female professor, harassment of black women on campus, faculty and students alike, and daily incidents, big or small, that students have to deal with in and out of the classroom in such white spaces.

"Personally, this semester has taken an extreme toll on me and my mental health. I found it impossible to have the motivation to survive my schedule and everything else Middlebury threw my way. And the lack of action by the greater community and the school in general to say 'we see you and we will fight for you' was all the more crippling. And I couldn't help but ask myself: why am I expected to give my best to a school and a community that was clearly not giving me its best? I hope that after today, that people that share my narrative can go away with seeing that administration and this school is recognizing them and is finally going to address these issues. Thank you."

Q&A

Jeff Holland ('19): "I have a question directed generally at the administration. I understand that there's a desire, even possibly a requirement, an obligation, to stand behind the integrity of the judicial process and also to maintain confidentiality about any processes that may be undergone. But also there has been a very blatant contradiction in the judicial process involving Addis that was pointed out in The Campus, which is the most widely read student-run media outlet we have. So I don't think that there's any way that it could be more widespread that there was a contradiction between the judicial officer who said there was no need to move the investigation further, and then later came the guilty verdict after that. And at the same time, that same article pointed out that there was an ample amount of evidence that Addis was not present at that event.

"So I'm just wondering -- I know you want to uphold the integrity of your judicial process, but at what point does that break down, when there's evidence in the most widely read student publication there is, pointing that there's been a contradiction and pointing out that there's evidence to the contrary of what the judicial officer said? Thanks."

Hannah Ross (General Counsel): "I am a lawyer and I am responsible for Middlebury's compliance with laws. We did a full, fair and thorough investigation over the summer in response to a student's complaint that an employee acted wrongly. We looked very seriously at the question of whether our employee had engaged in a violation of our anti-harassment and anti-discrimination policy. Commencing an investigation about employee misconduct does not start a student conduct case. There is no student conduct case that can be brought against a person who's not a student of Middlebury.

"The investigation came to a conclusion following our policy and our process. The facts, as we understand them, do not support the narrative. That's where we are. It's not a guilty verdict. There is no proceeding that remains pending, and as I said, there is no process that Middlebury engages in that relates to a student's behavior when that person is no longer enrolled at Middlebury. That doesn't happen."

Weston Uram ('18): "I grew up at Kenyon College, where my mother is a faculty member, and one of the things I admire most about Kenyon is the president. Shawn Decatur, also known as D-Cat among the students, is a fun, approachable president who loves to talk with the students about any topic they bring up. One of his best qualities is his ability to find an autonomous voice. He was never afraid to say what he thought even if it differed from the public stance of the college.

"I hope to ask a few questions that Laurie, as the person and not as the institution, could answer. I want to know if you think Addis was at the Charles Murray talk. I'm not asking what the college has said or what they have not said. I want to know what you believe. I want to know what you believe because I want to know why you call Addis a friend. I want to know why you and your administration would take the time to mail a framed photo of you and Addis together to her personal residence, but don't seem to take the time to acknowledge the pain and suffering you have caused her. I want to know why the administration has refused to mention Addis's name in relation to the racial profiling or in response to the violent imagery found on the chalkboards in Munroe. I want to know why a photo of Addis walking at commencement, cane in hand, is repeatedly being used as promotional material for graduation. And I want to know when the administration will stop using black bodies as simply props and advertisements, and when they will recognize them as real people who have real feelings, who have real struggles, and who deserve real apologies."

Patton: "I think it's really important in a conversation that we're all trying to do better, that we're all doing a lot of work every day to raise inclusivity where it's really hard. If we could find a way — I don't know, I can't supervise every single thing that goes out. If that image that goes out is there, I'm sure that that was painful for people to see. I am willing to sit with anyone in the community in a restorative practices circle including Addis to hear the pain that she has experienced. I will do that with anyone in this community. And I think it's important that we continue to think about those specific experiences. And that's why restorative practices matters.

"Part of what is hard in presidential speech, and I wish I could answer you as a person -- I can't right now, I'm here as a president. And so, I would be happy to walk with you and talk with you, but my role at this moment is to uphold all of the hardworking people. And so -- I do spend a lot of time with students and tell them what I think all the time in the luncheon halls, I'm in classrooms, I'm walking throughout the campus every day. And so, I'm more than happy to sit and talk to you. I'm sure the president of Kenyon also wouldn't be able to speak about a case [inaudible], but I will say again, those images were very, very disturbing. And perhaps yes -- we should have used Addis's name. I will sit with Addis, I will sit with any of you in restorative practices and talk about harm any time. That is me as a person and as a president. I hope that answers your question, and let's go for a walk."

Toni Cross ('18): "I just had a couple of questions: is there a timeline for fixing this broken Middlebury community? I know when I visited here for preview days in 2014 at least six people told me: do not come to this school, it will crush you and I don't know that I could in good conscious tell a black senior in high school to come here. It's been four years. Is there a timeline for making it better? And also I would like to ask the administration who have spoken here today how they would grade themselves in presentation and the image that they are giving to us? With the defensiveness that we constantly see, with the willingness to label actions, or to call themselves victims or point out unfairness towards themselves but not necessarily extend that same courtesy to the students. So I'm asking how would you grade yourselves? What kind of message do you think you're putting forward?

Treasure Brooks ('21): "I haven't been here very long but earlier Charles mentioned the overwhelming whiteness at this school and I just want to bring attention to the overwhelming blackness that doesn't come in the form of bodies. I live in Battell and I can't walk to the bathroom or back to my room without hearing trap music. And there is an overwhelming amount of black culture here but it's not represented in the population, in the student body. We've had CupcakKe come here last week, we're having Elle Varner come, and before that we had Noname Gypsy. How can we allow for the student body to be consuming black culture at such an alarming rate when we don't even value the black women that are walking around on this campus?

"I think that is remarkably grotesque, honestly, and if you really want to show support, if you want to show a greater cultural sensitivity towards black students then maybe we should make those events exclusive until we can show a general respect for all of the black diaspora, all of the black faculty, of the black students, and not just black culture. And additionally, to respond to something you said, President Patton, I would hope that you did not see your presidency and personhood as mutually exclusive because in the event that you do I think there needs to be a greater consideration for what leadership is."

James Sanchez (Assistant Professor of Writing): "I want to say a couple of things. I haven't heard anyone from faculty speak yet and I don't want to absolve us from any of these issues because this is just as important for students and administrators as it is for faculty. A couple of things I want to mention is, one, I feel like faculty needs to do a better job of modeling anti-racist behavior for our students in the classroom. I say that because when I did my interview here I spoke with a Latina student and this was before Charles Murray and she was telling me with issues that she had with white professors in the classroom and how as a Latina student she often felt that racist, bigoted viewpoints were held on equal playing field as anti-racist viewpoints and I think that's something that I challenge all faculty to really consider when having classroom discussions.

"I also want to say that faculty have a lot of agency in creating change on campus environments and that's something we all need to remember as faculty members when conducting our classes, creating new courses, interactions with students, we have agency in creating change. So I really want to challenge my colleagues here to on campus to really consider that in the future.

Sedge Lucas ('19): "I have a quick question for President Patton. I saw online that you and Professor Stanger are going to be having a talk this coming February titled 'Campus Speech: when protest turned violent' at the Cronkite School of Journalism in Arizona. Can you explain what the goal of this talk is? What do you think other schools or academia as a whole can learn about how Middlebury handled the situation last spring?"

Patton: "There are so many ways in which we could have done better. We have been slow to respond to graffiti incidents. I would just ask people to understand that we are living in the world where immediate response and the fact that we have to get the facts right is we want to make sure we get the facts right before we actually make a statement and so sometimes if we can't do it in 12 hours it's because we're wanting to make sure we have all the facts right.

"That being said, it's really important that that slowness of response is something that we can do better on. And we want to do better on. Secondly, the things that I have learned as a leader and a person here at Middlebury, number one, [is that] I was hoping that all the work that we've done in the last two years about inclusivity and scholarships raised, C3 developed, and AIM, and the alliance on disability, the bias response team, the more funds raised for financial aid, the restorative practices, all of these are things that have happened since 2015, since I got here... my mistake was in thinking that all those things and inviting everyone to do more of those things and invite us into those conversations would heal the hurt and it didn't. I did not understand the degree of hurt in this community and again I want to say how deeply sorry I am for that.

"So in response to that, part of what I push on in everywhere that I go is that inclusivity has to be part of any conversation around freedom of expression but we have to do both in the 21st century. And that we do not become more free unless we focus on inclusivity and all the ways that we've been talking about. And we do not become more inclusive if we can't have that freedom of expression as the basis of who we are."

Nia Robinson ('19): "I don't really have a question, more so a comment. Looking around this room most of the people in here are people I expected to be here. There are some surprises, like good surprises but nonetheless a surprise. And I think that it's really important when we're talking about community we claim who we are talking about. Because for example, the people who have called me the n-word are not found in this room. And I understand that people have commitments, I understand that people have other things going on, but everyone in this room has something else going on and so I think we need to look at who is making sacrifices for the community.

"A lot of people in this room are part of my community and I respect and love them a lot. But I think there are people who are not found in this room who have no stake in building a community and that's okay whereas if I take a step back then suddenly it's a problem. So that's not really a question, just more so a call for everyone in here to talk to your friends, talk to your commons, talk to your professors, because if we are building a community we need to make sure we're reaching everyone and not just the people who self select to be here."

Anonymous question submitted by index card to moderators: "It seems like both Alison Stanger and Laurie Patton have been taking a lot of public, national opportunities to speak about the events of the spring, including at a congressional hearing on C-SPAN, the Free Speech Conference Laurie spoke at. For the purpose of transparency, are President Patton or Alison Stanger being financially compensated for these talks? Are they profiting off the terrible situation the administration has put us in?"

Patton: "I was not paid to go to the University of Chicago and I have no interest in profiting from any situation that happened at Middlebury. I am very clear that any conversation that's part of the national discourse where Middlebury is mentioned we need to create balance so at the Chicago conference part of what we pushed on with many, many people there is where is our inclusivity? Where are our inclusivity efforts? We've always got to balance those two things no matter what happens. I had no intentions of profiting in any way my intent is to work on moving a national conversation where people who are constantly talking about free speech also talk about inclusivity."

Victor Filpo ('16, Admissions counselor): "Something that is frustrating, honestly, about this conversation is that we've really been centering around the case that happened with Addis or the case that happened with the professor. And that's completely legitimate because they are people who've been struggling a lot and they've been carrying a lot of the heaviness of what's going on. But I would like to say that the reality is that a lot of people of color deal with this. It is not surprising. We are tokenizing them right now by only bringing up those instances.

When I was freshman, when I was walking with my Posse member in Battell, a public safety officer stopped us and told us, 'I haven't seen you on campus, can you show us your IDs?' When we were first -years here at Middlebury. He still works here. We know that this happens. We choose to ignore it because it makes us feel comfortable. And I wonder when we're going to stop with this comfort because we just sit here every single year and have this conversation all over again in this comfort and I hope that in future instances when the next one comes up it's not Shatavia, it's not Victor, it's not the professor. It's a collective group of people who are going through a lot."

Patton: "I wanted to mention that we're working with public safety, public safety has gone through a mandatory de-escalation training as well as diversity training this fall and will continue to do so: concrete action. Concrete action: we created a seizing the opportunity fund for any student at Middlebury who wants to and needs to do something different, whether they need their parents to come here, or whether they need to go to MiddCore, whether they need more money for something they need more access to at Middlebury. We have raised that money so that every student has access to all educational opportunities. We started that last year, it's available, talk to Katy Smith Abbott, another concrete action.

"I really appreciate what you said about facing racism and acknowledging and the everyday racism that happens on this campus that I acknowledged in the beginning. I think that if we could create an archive to create news stories of what is happening to people that would make it even more powerful for us so we need to get those kinds of stories on the books. We need to do a lot more mandatory training, that concrete action is happening in the next year, and in the back there are about 15 more concrete actions. None of them are enough. We need your advice on how to make it more effective and again I want to acknowledge the hurt that people are feeling and we are going to create a lot of student advisory committees to be better and more effective. And I am so proud of this community for being here tonight. Thank you very much."

PHOTOS BY: EMMA STAPLETON (LEFT) AND AIDAN ACOSTA (RIGHT)

Last month, members of the college's senior leadership group held an open forum for members of the community (left). Last Thursday, a community conversation was scheduled to take place in Wilson Hall (right) but was moved to Mead Chapel after the room reached capacity. College president Laurie Patton was in attendance on Thursday.

IP&E Symposium Highlights U.S. and Global Trade

By BENJY RENTON
Contributing Writer

While the temperature on Friday Nov. 10 was a brisk 26 degrees and frost covered the ground, the conversation in the conference room at the Robert A. Jones '59 House certainly warmed up the room and created a lively, rich atmosphere. The International Politics and Economics (IPE) Department hosted its sixth annual symposium, featuring three scholars from universities across the northeast, each delivering separate lectures moderated by a chosen student majoring in IPE.

With the support of the department, Professors Douglas Irwin of Dartmouth College, Edward Mansfield of the University of Pennsylvania and Peter Schott of Yale University came to campus to give short lectures for about 30 minutes each. After each presentation, students, faculty and other community members were invited to ask questions about the topics discussed, with the first question reserved for students, as per tradition. This year's symposium was titled, "The United States and Global Trade: Winners, Losers and the Way Forward," and each speaker had his own addition to the conversation topic.

William Pyle, IPE program director and professor of economics, who co-organized the event along with Associate Professor of Political Science Sarah Stroup, introduced the packed audience to the afternoon's event.

"This is the signature public event of [the] IPE program, when we invite three outside experts to speak to a question of global importance," he said. Jeffrey Cason, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the schools, continued the introductions, noting that thinking about trade in global context is crucial, especially in today's political climate.

"Trade is perfect topic for symposium that wants to cross borders between politics and economics," he said.

Irwin gave the first lecture, titled "Protectionism and Economic Populism: Lessons from US History." Irwin is the John French Professor of Economics at Dartmouth College and is the author of the recently published, "Clashing over Commerce: A History of U.S. Trade Policy". Using examples from current politics, he showed that there is a new divide in America regarding opinions on trade that does not revolve around political parties.

"It's not so much a left-right issue as an open-closed issue," Irwin said. Drawing on the history of trade policy in the U.S., Irwin suggested that there have been three eras of trade policy: Revenue (1789-1860), during which Congress was given the power to tax; Restriction (1860-1934), during which there was a move to protect American interests; and Reciprocity (1934-present), during which the U.S. encouraged trade. Throughout his lecture on the histories of policy, he concluded that trade has always been a source of domestic political conflict and there has been a renewed partisan conflict in the post-Cold War era and the recent presidential election.

Continuing the conversation,Mansfield gave a presentation on American attitudes toward trade. Mansfield, professor of political science and director of the center for international politics at the University of Pennsylvania, discussed the changing public mood towards U.S. trade policy. Using graphs showing the public's opinion toward trade and economic models such as the Heckscher-Ohlin and Ricardo Viner models, he explained the various factors towards these fluctuations. In addition to volatile political economy and partisanship, Mansfield mentioned three factors of political psychology: attitudes of isolationism, nationalism and ethnocentrism.

"All three factors play a huge role in what people think about trade and globalization, but people think about [the] international part; they don't think about the trade part," he said, showing that the public opinion is based on an individual's comfort with globalization, rather than a specific opinion on trade policy. Mansfield concluded his presentation with the idea that despite widespread claims that attitudes about trade reflect economic consequences, these attitudes were guided to a much larger extent by isolationism, nationalism and prejudice.

Schott concluded the set of presentations with a lecture titled "The Distributional Implications of Trade Liberalization with China." Schott is a professor of international economics at the Yale School of Management, and one his most recent projects examines the decline of U.S. manufacturing employment during the 2000s. He recounted a brief history of U.S. manufacturing employment and trade liberalization with China. Schott also linked mortality rates in the U.S. with exposure to trade liberalization, in addition to discussing the decline of manufacturing employment in certain areas of the U.S., such as Appalachia. He finished his presentation with the recommendation to conduct more research into the factors that impede reallocation before policy can be formulated.

Pyle thought the event was a success.

"I was extremely pleased with the audience turnout. The room was full to capacity for all three of the presentations. And the quality of the presentations was uniformly high," he said. "There's really so much still we have to learn about how our labor markets respond to shocks, whether those are induced by trade, as was the case when China joined the WTO, or technology. Going forward, we need to understand better as a society how we can do more to spread the gains and alleviate the costs."

Fusing together politics and economics, this year's IPE symposium shed light on a topic very relevant to today's society and political climate.

Eighth Annual TEDxMiddlebury Convenes

By COURTENAY ROCHE
Contributing Writer

What do state politics, design, racial identity, and linguistics have to tell us about self-discovery and loss? Six speakers posed—and answered—those questions and many more on Saturday at the eighth annual TEDx-Middlebury conference held in Mahaney Center for the Arts.

With nothing but a projector behind them and a rug under their feet, à la traditional TED, these speakers brought their unique and varied backgrounds to the stage to speak to this year's theme, "Lost and Found." The theme centered around the stories and memories that shape each person's understanding of the world, and the reshaping of those narratives that can occur throughout one's life.

"[It] is about the perpetual discovery and rediscovery that is essential to our existence as human beings," the event organizers wrote. "It calls us to remember people, places, words, and histories we have left behind or taken for granted, but simultaneously invites us to reclaim, reshape, and reconstruct what we know."

Since the conference was founded in 2010, it has been entirely run by a board of nine students. The students spend from March through November planning everything from recruiting speakers, to choosing a theme, to catering, to tech. According to the board, the conference's success has only grown in the past few years.

"As a board member for the past three years, it amazes me to see how much our student org has grown and continues to grow. This was the first TEDxMiddlebury event to sell out and it was the first to have ASL interpretation and accessibility copies available to attendees," said Natalie Figueroa '18, a board member.

This year's speakers were Daniel Erker, Lecia Brooks, Michael Jager, Attica Scott, Nia Robinson '19, and Rana Abdelhamid '15. Each speaker took the stage for exactly 18 minutes to share their experiences of the feeling of being lost and the beauty of finding purpose once again.

The first speaker of the morning, linguist Daniel Erker, spoke about the power of language as a way to help people find their way in life. Some see language as a barrier between different races and nationalities, but Erker sees language as a bridge to be crossed, and one that can facilitate human connection rather than inhibit it. Language can particularly offer solutions to the 30 million immigrants who live in the U.S., who are often seen as facing an inability to assimilate due to language difficulties, or, "The Hispanic Challenge."

"What if someone told you that in our country there was a large group of people who lacked the desire to use language this way, or that there were millions of people who willfully ignored the urge to linguistically connect with their fellow Americans? You would likely and this surprising, if not simply difficult to believe. But this is precisely what some very influential and powerful individuals are asking to you believe when it comes to Americans who were born outside of the United States and then at some point later in life, moved to this country," Erker said.

Erker used data that he and several other linguists collected from Spanish speakers in New York City and Boston to show how "The Hispanic Challenge" is not empirically supported, and immigrants are actually becoming increasingly proficient in English and using it even more than Spanish in some instances.

"The Hispanic Challenge is not real, nor is any other challenge claiming that a particular immigrant group is unwilling, unable, or unmotivated to linguistically connect to the people who live in the communities around them," he said.

Erker finished by urging students to keep this newfound linguistic discovery close to their hearts: language is a bridge, not a barrier.

Nia Robinson '19, the only student speaker and the winner of the 2017 student speaker competition, gave the penultimate TED talk, reminding us "we are not as lost as we think we are."

Robinson spoke about how being black in predominantly white spaces made her feel out of place growing up, and how she struggled to accept her own identity.

"I knew I wasn't supposed to like myself, so I didn't. I remember trying to pour bleach on myself to make me lighter. It didn't work. I remember scrubbing as hard as I could because people told me I was covered in dirt. As a result, I have very soft skin, but it left me with deep invisible scars," Robinson said.

Moving forward, Robinson told the audience, took a mix of emotional and generational memory. Emotional memory is a remembrance that triggers deeply felt emotions from the past.

"Each time someone called me the wrong name, sent me death threats, or told me I was pretty for a black girl, it was all familiar, but it would hurt more because I would remember each time it happened before," Robinson said.

Generational memory, as Robinson defines it, is "how history affects generations...[where] we find solutions to problems that already exist somewhere." She explained how past generations' wisdom could be applied to today, using education as an example. How can we fix the problems of poverty and segregation facing our education system, except by looking to where those problems originated?

Still, Robinson said, sometimes it seems like we can't use memory to solve everything. However, she said: "When the two poles are pulling and my memories are at odds, I realize they both are part of me, so I can't go wrong."

These and the four other speakers taught the audience about lost and found through the diverse lenses of racism, creativity, politics, and more, helping to realize a wonderful event in the process.

The TEDxMiddlebury board hopes the community takes with them these lessons about what it means to be lost and found:

"[Lost and Found] makes space for both grief and joy, fate and intention, exile and belonging, context and abstraction. Most of all, it asks that we rethink our narratives of time and progress as we navigate our individual and collective past, present, and future."

Interfaith House Offers Space for Diversity and Discussion

By RUHAMAH WEIL
Contributing Writer

The Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life opened the Mosaic Interfaith House at the beginning of this school year. The house, a residential space intended for those committed to education through cultural exchange, strives to form and nurture a bonded community. Mosaic, located in the Porter House just off South Main Street, houses 14 students of different faith backgrounds including atheists, Muslims, Catholic and Protestant Christians, agnostics, Hindus, and Buddhists. According to the Scott Center, the students meet weekly to discuss the state of their community and program events. They also pick various holidays and rituals to observe together. The Interfaith House's primary purpose is to provide a learning environment for its residents.

Varsha Vijaykumar '20, who was raised in a Hindu household but now identifies as a spiritual atheist, expressed her desire to fight misconceptions of those who "do not necessarily agree with organized religion or believe in any supreme, universal force." She said that through the Interfaith House she hopes to show that she doesn't have to "believe in a God" in order to "live just as intentionally and kindly as others."

Dean of Spiritual and Religious Life Mark Orten, who helped found the Interfaith House, emphasized the need to remember religious diversity, which is forgotten in many conversations of inclusivity.

"If we are to live fully in the world, much less to effect real and positive change, we must be more knowledgeable, more literate, about where these frameworks come from and what lies beneath them," he said. Orten hopes the house will help raise awareness of secular philosophies and minor religious communities.

While Orten stressed the importance of discussion and spreading awareness, he believes that experiential learning is a vital step towards understanding the role of spiritualism in our world. Rather than merely debating and advocating for the effects of religious diversity, the residents of Mosaic live it. Toni Cross '18 described how students in the house encounter "opportunities for divergence, conversation, and finally, reconciliation" in their day-to-day activities. This idea of reconciliation, of having to mediate differences, makes the Interfaith House a unique residential space on campus. Cross cites the most tangible example of this as, "how to use the kitchen space in a way that's cognizant of people's dietary practices."

Vijaykumar agreed, explaining that when her housemates worked through this issue, she felt they respected her and her needs. She called for this active sharing of cultures in order to distance ourselves from the stereotypes we have embedded within us "in a time in our history in which people are being denigrated simply because of their beliefs."

The creation of the Interfaith House comes on the heels of several acts of hate speech against religious minorities on campus and in the wider Middlebury community. Following the presidential election last year, one student found a derogatory message on her dorm room whiteboard. A week later, a swastika was drawn on the door of the Havurah House in Middlebury. Cross feels these cases crystallized the need to celebrate and honor the campus' religious diversity. "[I

t] felt like it was more important than ever to show that peaceful, intentional coexistence is possible and preferable," she said.

Dean Orten affirmed that Mosaic is, by nature, a space for "cooperation" and "communication." As Cross said, the diverse residents must be "interested in different faiths" and still "be flexible about living with other people whose values might be different than theirs."

"[The students living in the Interfaith House are] just a group of people living together who talk with God, or don't talk with God, in different ways," Cross said.

Vijaykumar described how her housemates take care of each other by making tea, baking treats, and getting caffeinated candies for each other ahead of a long night.

"[Living in this house] is an experience that I wish everyone at Middlebury could take part in," she said. "The sense of community that I feel with all of these people that come from backgrounds completely different from mine proves that love and respect erase all of the walls and borders that otherwise separate us. No matter how cheesy that sounds, it's still completely true."

Guest Delivers Free Expression Lecture

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Features Editor

Students and faculty gathered at the Robert A. Jones '59 Conference Room on Thursday Nov. 9 to attend the lecture, "Free Expression and the Global Expansion of Judicial Power". The lecture was delivered by professor Thomas Keck, who teaches political science at Syracuse University, and sponsored by the political science department, the Pre-Law Society, the Rohatyn Center, and Atwater Commons. Keck is currently collaborating with Middlebury College political science professor Erik Bleich in building a public database containing the results of judicial cases around the world that concern free expression.

Keck started his lecture by highlighting how 184 countries around the world have explicit laws granting freedom of expression in their constitutions. He explained that the extent to which such laws are enforced, and the manner in which such laws are defined, varies greatly among these countries.

Keck then described how judicial powers have arisen in many ex-axis, ex-communist, and ex-colonial nations, and that an increasing number of countries have established more independent judicial institutions. According to Keck, judicial review is designed to protect individual liberty and the rights of minority groups. He also introduced conflicting perspectives on the reality of judicial power.. For example, Ran Hirschl, a political science professor at the University of Toronto, argues that judicial review protects existing power relations. Some scholars, on the other hand, believe that such courts protect oppressed groups.

Keck presented individual cases which specified the rights protected by freedom of expression laws. He cited Terminiello vs. Chicago (US 1949), where a Catholic priest, Arthur Terminiello, gave an inflammatory speech criticizing various racial groups. In another case, the Supreme Court eventually decided that the ordinance rule was a violation of the First Amendment. Then in Fiener v. New York (US 1951), a college student named Irving Fiener was arrested for making an inflammatory speech, urging a crowd of blacks and whites to "rise up in arms and fight for [their] rights." In this case, the Supreme Court decided that Fiener's First Amendment rights were not violated, since the cause of his arrest was inciting a riot, and not the content of his speech.

Keck then offered three ways of looking at the data gathered by him and Bleich. Such methods allow one to observe "how constitutional courts respond to similar Freedom of Expression claims from differently situated claimants," Keck said. The first method involves performing a single-country (or single-court) analysis. The second involves performing cross-national (or cross-court) comparisons. These methods are especially helpful in determining if a global standard of handling free expression cases is emerging, as well as in identifying which nations are outliers from the set standard. In addition, one might utilize the second method to decide if U.S and Canadian courts have unique patterns in handling free expression cases. The third method, finally, involves comparisons across types of expression.

Bleich was asked to describe the process of inviting Keck to speak on Thursday.

"Professor Keck was invited to talk about how courts deal with freedom of expression around the world," said Bleich. "He is the lead researcher on a multi-year National Science Foundation project that I am involved in that includes several Middlebury students. The idea is to examine every freedom of speech ruling in every high court around the world, including US state Supreme Courts, the US Supreme Court, other countries' equivalent high courts, and international jurisdictions like the European Court of Human Rights."

Bleich further elaborated on the status of the project.

'This project is ongoing, and we are working with partners around the world collecting information on how courts deal with freedom of speech issues,' said Bleich. 'The premise behind this study is that courts have become more important over time in deciding speech issues. This is partly because more countries have developed constitutional provisions that protect freedom of expression, and partly because courts are simply becoming more influential in almost every country in making major decisions that affect our daily lives.'

'[Keck's] overview was an introduction to this topic, because we haven't collected information on every court around the world yet, but we do have good information on a few courts,' said Bleich. 'So he was able to review some basic similarities and differences in how these courts have dealt with free speech issues. These decisions involved a wide variety of topics, such as hate speech, commercial speech (advertisements), pornography, obscenity, religious values, or anti-judge-defamation cases.'

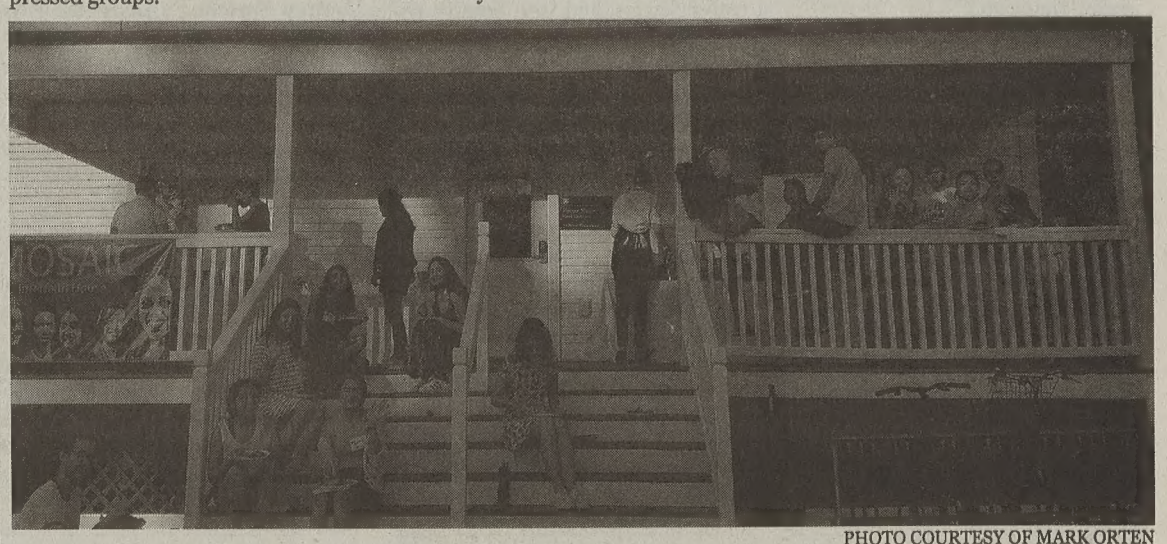


PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK ORTEN

Students gathered at Porter House earlier in the fall to celebrate the new Mosaic Interfaith House, where 14 students of different faith backgrounds live together. The house was created by the Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life.

Perspectives on Student-Led Public Art on Campus

By APRIL QIAN
Contributing Writer

When Annie Ulrich '13 describes Atwater Dining Hall, she describes a space that carries a magical dimension mirroring the fantastically bright world of the movie "La La Land." Ulrich created "Sum of All Parts," a public art piece at Atwater Dining that fills its high ceiling with more than eight hundred whimsical paper planes made from recycled papers, projects and problem sets.

During regular mealtime hours, lights from the ceiling illuminate the planes' pages, yellowed with age and exposure and interconnected by cobwebs. The composition of the fleet creates a sense of dynamic movement so that, according to Annie, the planes seem to be in the middle of spiraling forward despite their static position in space.

"When you look at it from the back, through the beautiful large windows at night," she said, "it feels like that space has something going on after hours, after everyone has left."

Change seems to be a recurring theme when Ulrich speaks about the installation, which began as a project for her studio art senior independent study course. "Sum of All Parts" was created three times, each time for a different purpose. The piece was remade for Atwater Dining after Ulrich was presented with the CAPP award, a yearly award established by the Committee for Art in Public Places (CAPP) to honor a graduating senior. The most recent recipient of the award is Daniella Silva '17, whose work is currently on display in the lower lobby of the Axinn Center at Starr Library.

As most CAPP pieces only stay on campus for one to two years, maintenance was not one of Ulrich's priorities when considering the installation of "Sum of All Parts." CAPP is now considering either a thorough cleaning of the piece or its removal.

Aided by the liberal use of a hot glue-gun, the paper planes were attached to mechanical wires, which were then attached to hoops that hung from the ceiling of the dining hall. Unfortunately, the same quality that allowed the piece to be easily mounted makes the piece vulnerable to the advances of time. Dust has been collecting in the folds of the paper and a colony of spiders have made their own additions to the piece through a series of artfully interconnected cobwebs.

Richard Saunders, the director of CAPP, says that the installation's fate has not yet been decided, and sees enthusiasm in the college community to keep the piece.

According to Saunders, the selection process for the recipient of the CAPP award involves an "organic process" that allows members of the community to vote for the work of one of three nominated graduating students to reflect current interests of the student body and highlights of the studio art program. Included in the CAPP award is an agreement that the artwork will be displayed for approximately two years, after which it will be returned to the creator of the piece.

The removal or addition of a new installation is guided by practical considerations requiring a collaborative effort between the Space Management Committee, Campus Facilities and CAPP, which has recently undergone formal reorganization into a bicameral system that Saunders likens to the House and Senate of the American political system.

"There was never a plan to put all the works [of public art] in one location," Saunders said. "The works are meant to engage, to be placed where people are likely to see them. Many students don't make it to the Museum in their four years here, and the Public Arts program is an opportunity for unexpected encounters with art." Often, Saunders added, the public art that seems to fade to the background of our daily lives eventually becomes an integral part of students' experiences at Middlebury.

Ulrich, who returned to the college after graduation as the college's associate costume director, echoed this notion.She noticed that other alumni who returned to visit saw the changes in the campus's appearance as a reflection of changes in the more general campus scene.

"Art transforms a space by its presence but some art is not meant to last" Ulrich said. She points to professional artist Patrick Dougherty's temporary piece, "So Inclined," which inhabited the front lawn of the Mahaney Center of the Arts from 2007 to 2011 before practical reasons necessitated its removal. The changes in both Dougherty's piece and hers reflect a natural process that occurs over time.

"Art doesn't have to be this monument that just sits there," Ulrich said. Interactive and accessible, Ulrich's works are meant to invite viewers not to "come and adore me," but rather to "come and play with me."

At the last meeting of the CAPP, Professor Sanford Mirling of the studio art department presented a tri-college public art exchange program with Bennington College and Plattsburg State University. Through this program, three works from the Franconia Sculpture Park in Minnesota will be on loan for two years to each of the three schools, after which time the schools will exchange the works with each other. As

MIDDBEAT

"Sum of All Parts" was created by Annie Ulrich '13 and funded by CAPP.

permanent acquisition and maintenance works of art can be expensive, the public art exchange program, as Saunders points out, offers a means for the college to less expensively bring new works of art to campus and take calculated risks by bringing controversial works that will spark discussions in the public sphere and update the public art program to become truly contemporary.

Opportunities for student-directed public art are available through the CAPP fund. Saunders cites the murals in Proctor Dining Hall and at the back of Wright Memorial Theater as works which were either executed or proposed by students.

Ross Commons has also made an effort to bring student-created art into living spaces. Professor Maria Hatjigeorgiou, faculty co-head of Ross Commons, says that accessible art takes a special role in humanizing a living space as crowded as that which the "Rossers" inhabit. Near the Ross Commons Office, she points to the wall on which a collection called "100 Daves" had been displayed. The work was curated by senior Andrew Smith '17 and its name is a pun on the eponymous final 100 days before seniors graduate from the college. The white brick wall is now empty.

"Look at that," she said, her tone jokingly disdainful. "That is an institutional wall."

Hatjigeorgiou speaks about her role in "setting an intellectual tone" for the students in a way that is similar to the presence of art in daily life.

"What we do is invisible," she says, "but it permeates a space." She refers to the commons in which a student belongs as the "intellectual home" where he or she individuates. In this process of differentiation, Hatjigeorgiou reasons, art is the medium that, "lends voices to people who may be quiet and introspective, who are not speaking out loud, who need art in their lives."

"We sometimes have to be cautious with the art we display," Hatjigeorgiou said, "because it might invite disrespect. We have to create a balance between being hopeful and doing what is practical. But I'm an idealist. I believe in art. Art humanizes."

Elle Varner Illuminates

By NATE OBBARD
Contributing Writer

This past Friday, Elle Varner performed for Middlebury's annual Fall Concert. The Grammy-winning Los Angeles singer sang a mix of tracks from her album, *Perfectly Imperfect*, and some new music in Wilson Hall. The energy of both Varner and the crowd was palpable from the moment she stepped onstage, and refused to die down until she stepped away.

This artist goes for a sort of blunt lyricism that puts honesty above all else, creating some very raw and powerful vocal performances. The highs of 'Fuck It Out' and the twangs of 'Refill' were brought to life by Varner's energetic and passionate delivery. Her music is very close to reality: songs about people with real, relatable problems, delivered in a way that makes you feel an empathetic link with individuals we've never met. And when the performance climaxed, as it did when Varner showed off her pipes in 'I Don't Care,' the passion of crowd and performer made a lasting imprint.

Unfortunately, those moments were few and far between. Many of Varner's songs were a bit flat in their ebb and flow, as well as in their production. Her pre-recorded pop bits and live acoustic verses were all well-made, but a bit repetitive and safe. While each song carried its own distinct sound, the individual tracks often felt too conservative.

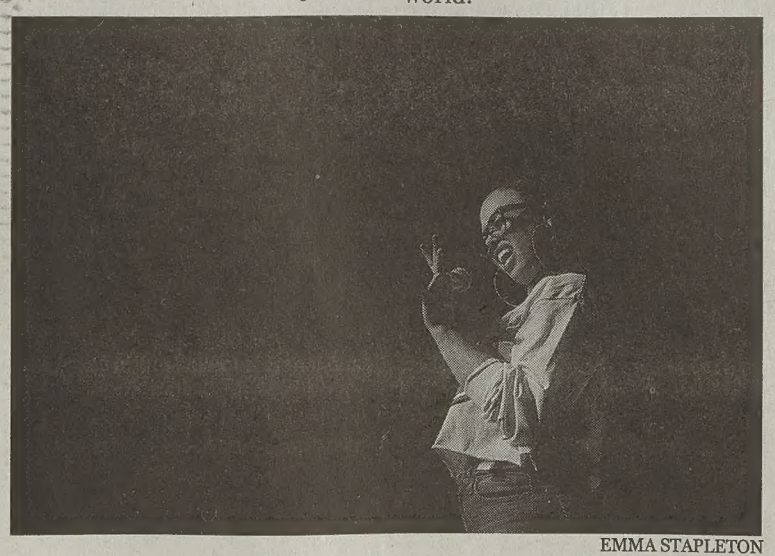
Nonetheless, Varner often defied genre classification, using a pop-base for music that could be described at times as hip-hop, country, or even folk. She deliverd an impressive live performance that isn't done justice by her pre-recorded works, and made for an enjoyable show.

EMMA STAPLETON

Elle Varner graced Middlebury's annual Fall concert last Friday.

In the end, one of the most striking pieces of the show was not Varner herself, but the crowd in attendance. It was substantially more diverse than the school as whole. Though it may bill itself as a diverse institution, the visible truth is that Middlebury is still overwhelmingly white. The crowd was small, and perhaps not as representative of Midd as many would purport, but it gave the show an inclusive feeling. One which seemed to say that everyone wanted to be there and was nearly as interested in what Varner had to say as they were in what she was singing.

In between songs, her messages about college and adulthood were well met, and she put a (perhaps undeservedly) positive spin on the environment we're in now. She wryly remarked on what might happen when we enter the world, and then quickly added something to the effect of "well, you're sort of already in the world."



EMMA STAPLETON

Perhaps we are. But our existence within a bubble of incredible privilege and physical isolation is a certainty. For better or worse, this reality shapes and influences all of our four years here.

When Varner spoke about going out into the world to a group of people who can sometimes feel estranged from it or about following passion at a school that constantly sends us emails about careers in finance, she became a valuable reminder of just what possible at Midd, and how we might use what we find here to go forward in the world.

This is why the booking of Varner was such an excellent choice on the Concert Board's part. It seems that a lot of Midd's value ought to come from the diversity of thought and experiences it offers, and some of that can get lost in what can feel like a homogenous campus. The atmosphere that Varner created and the mood and makeup of the crowd certainly fed the ideal of diversity.

As a member of the Concert Board pointed out, some students look for more of a "party vibe" from their concerts. This ever-present tension boiled over at the Noname concert as people who cared about the artist and lyricism were forced to contend with those who were determined to make it a rager. By bringing artists like Varner to campus, Middlebury may not be appeasing the latter group. Yet a strong woman of color like Varner, whose music is definitely, uniquely hers, was almost certainly more valuable in feeding hearts and artistic desires of our students.

Performing Arts Spotlight: Modigliani String Quartet

The Modigliani String Quartet will give a free concert on Thursday, Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts' Robinson Hall. Since forming in 2003, the group has gained international acclaim and released seven CDs. The event is free; no tickets are required.

Guest Lecturer Talks About Maternal Attitudes

By JORDAN HOWELL
Contributing Writer

As part of its search for a new professor, the psychology department has begun to invite interested candidates to speak at the college. One such lecturer is Laura Sockol, who is currently a research psychology professor at Davidson College. Sockol gave a short research talk, entitled "Maternal Attitudes as a Specific Risk Factor for Perinatal Depression and Anxiety," on Tuesday Nov. 7, followed by a lecture Wednesday Nov. 8.

Sockol began her talk by describing some symptoms that women may experience after having a child, including "baby blues", perinatal mood and anxiety disorders and the rare postpartum psychosis. She proceeded to discuss the importance of doing research on perinatal mood and anxiety disorders due to the variety of poor birth outcomes that could result. Scientists should think about the health of mothers and how their health may affect their children.

Sockol's research mainly focuses on cognitive risk factors for first-time mothers that may lead to such perinatal mood and anxiety disorders. These cognitive risk factors revolve around what she calls maternal attitudes: "beliefs an individual holds related to motherhood that contain an evaluative component." An example Sockol gave of a a maladaptive maternal attitude was the notion a first-time mother may have that a good mother would not allow her baby to cry in public. This idea could cause a mother to believe that she was a bad parent if her baby did cry in public, and might lead to perinatal mood and anxiety disorders in the long term.

Sockol proceeded to discuss her experimental goal, which consists of developing a valid and reliable measure of maternal attitudes, and the Attitudes Toward Motherhood Scale (AToM) that she and her team have established to get to that goal. Various studies have proved that this scale is a re

RESEARCHGATE

liable and valid measure for determining maternal attitudes and the types of thought processes that are most likely to to result in some type of mood or anxiety disorder. The success of the scale implies that it could help to identify women who have maternal attitudes that are likely to lead to perinatal and anxiety disorders. With this screening method, doctors and other health professionals would be able to target specific maternal attitudes and "re-shape" them to prevent poor outcomes.

At the end of her talk, Sockol discussed how fathers fit into this model. She mentioned that first-time fathers actually have similar attitudes and beliefs to mothers in regards to how a perfect parent should act and treat their child, and that this finding could lead to the creation of an Attitudes Towards Fatherhood Scale in the future. She also noted that she eventually wants to research how a father's attitudes specifically interact, if at all, with a mother's attitudes, or whether fathers' attitudes on how mothers should behave somehow shape mothers' attitudes.

One crucial limitation of her study that Sockol pointed out is that attitudes are created through experiences and life situations. These experiences were variables that Sockol could not control in her study. She alluded to previous studies, which found that women who were low-income racial minorities were especially at risk for perinatal mood and anxiety disorders. These risk factors could easily interact with maternal attitudes or even cause the formation of certain maternal attitudes. The long term reprecussions of these health inequalities and other questions like that would likely be interesting directions in which to take this research in the future.

The Librarian Is In

By KATRINA SPENCER
Senior Columnist

Literatures and cultures librarian Katrina Spencer is liaison to the Anderson Freeman Center, the Arabic department, the French department, the Gender Sexuality & Feminist Studies (GSFS Program), the Language Schools, Linguistics and the Spanish & Portuguese departments. These affiliations are reflected in her reading choices. "While I am a very slow reader, I'm a very critical reader," she says.

Pages: 47

"Mamette: Anges et pigeons" Nob

DAVIS FAMILY LIBRARY

THE WHAT

"Mamette" is a work of graphic literature born from a strong tradition of cartooning in France. The title character is Mamette, a senior citizen who is also a widow. It tells of her intimate and sweet adventures in navigating her daily life: meeting up with friends in a park, visiting her husband's tombstone and babysitting a rambunctious youth, to name a few. The work is beautifully colored and its humor is warm, quiet and endearing.

THE WHY

I came across this work by accident in Montreal. I was visiting a friend and asked her to take me to a French-language bookstore, Renaud-Bray. I spent most of my time on the upper level of the store where graphic novels and children's literature were housed. As a librarian who loves languages, how could I resist? I furiously jotted down titles that I thought would be great for our browsing collection and that's how the library came to acquire this author's work.

Rating: 5/5 cardigans

Heart-warming, beautiful, full-color and unpretentious; this work does not try not to be any more than what it is.

Professor Examines Generation of Consciousness

By CAROLINE JASCHKE
Staff Writer

Professor Mike Dash of the psychology department explores the question, how does the brain generate our consciousness? He studies this difficult concept by examining learning and memory in rats, observing how the coordinated activities of groups of neurons affect cognition and the brain.

"As these groups of neurons come together and coordinate activity," Dash asked, "how does this help support functions we're interested in and how does this support the brain itself?"

The field of neuroscience research mostly focuses on two broad areas at either end of consciousness. There are cellular/molecular neuroscientists, who explore the details behind the individual mechanisms responsible for the communication of neurons. There are also systems neuroscientists, who draw larger conclusions about function in various brain areas. Dash considers himself between these two areas.

"There are comparably fewer individuals who sit in that middle ground and in order to link the cellular/molecular mechanisms with the systems," Dash said. "We have to look at the coordination of the activity of the neurons."

This year, Dash's lab includes four seniors pursuing two different projects to study this coordinated neuronal activity. Stella Lentzou '18 and Josh Goldenberg '18 are working on a project about how competing neurons communicate so that when there are several valid responses available, one response wins out.

Kisha Kalra '18 and Deniz Bingul '18 are studying how inducing learning through long-term potentiation (LTP) affects metabolic energy changes in the brain.

LTP is the strengthening of synapses, the communication site between two different neurons, that occurs following the use of the synapse. Strengthening the connections of some synapses and not others will bias which groups of neuronal connections form.

Lentzou and Goldenberg's project builds on the findings of a previous lab group that observed two different strategies adopted by rats to learn where to find food in a T-maze. Food was consistently placed in one arm of the maze (e.g. the left arm) and the rats adopted either a place strategy or a body strategy.

Some rats learned to follow certain external cues, such as posters on the wall, in order to reach the food, a place strategy. Other rats learned to turn their bodies to the left to find the food, a body strategy.

Although the rats all came from the same strain, meaning they are genetically identical, 50% adopted the place strategy and 50% adopted the body strategy. Lentzou and Goldenberg seek to address why these seemingly identical rats become biased towards one strategy over the other.

Existing literature on the subject indicates that the hippocampus is responsible for place strategy, while the dorsal striatum is responsible for body strategy. To examine what is happening in the brain, Lentzou and Goldenberg record the electromagnetic activity of groups of neurons in these two areas, plus the prefrontal cortex, before, during, and after maze learning.

As the team begins to analyze the data, Lentzou said they are looking for answers to questions such as, "Is there a correlation between brain activity before and after maze exposure? Is one area more active than the other? Is there any kind of synchronous activity? For example, if we see that the hippocampus and dorsal striatum have synchronous activity, it means that they're talking to each other."

"How might this brain activity produce cognition and are the rats conscious of their actions in the maze?" Lentzou asked, indicating this as the central question of their research.

On the other hand, Kalra's and Bingul's project asks what sort of metabolic demand the strengthening of synaptic connections imposes on the brain.

"We know the brain is incredibly greedy," Dash said. "The brain is two percent of our body mass, but it uses 20 percent of our energy supply. Neuronal activity is the major driver of energy consumption within the brain."

By inducing learning through a brief electrical stimulation, Kalra and Bingul can measure the strength of the synaptic connections before, during and after learning. Simultaneously, they are able to record the concentrations of glucose, oxygen, and lactate in these connections.

"Lactate is a byproduct of glycolysis and our hypothesis is that the brain increasingly relies on glycolysis, [the breakdown of glucose to provide energy for the brain], when under energetic strain," Kalra said.

"Is learning like running a marathon for the brain?" Dash asked, putting the question in less technical terms.

By measuring the concentrations of glucose, oxygen and lactate, the lab can explore how does availability of glucose, used for energy, changes as a consequence of strengthened synapses. The researchers also gained insight into how the energy needs of stimulation cause the brain to compensate.

Answers to these challenging questions do not come easily or quickly. The students often spend hours in lab. Handling the demands of lab and their own class work and extracurricular activities is a true balancing act. Nonetheless, it is an experience the students describe as very rewarding.

Kalra remembered first entering the lab and thinking, "how will I ever be able to do any of this?"

Now, she finds herself getting excited over lactate levels that were previously meaningless to her. Lentzou has also enjoyed being involved with every step of the lab process, which allows her to understand all the components of the experiments.

"The Dash lab helped me realize that I want to make it my life purpose to answer the questions I have about how the brain works," said Lentzou. "I am applying for a PhD program in this area to gain the tools I need to answer those questions."

YEAGER ANDERSON

Stella Lentzou, Kisha Kalra, Josh Goldenberg andDeniz Bingul (all '18) have been working with Prof. Dash.

DON'T MISS THIS

I Am Not Your Negro

Based on the unfinished book by James Baldwin and narrated by Samuel L. Jakcson, this documentary chronicles the history of activism during the civil rights movement. The film has been described as "on of the best movies about the Civil Rights era ever made" by Jordan Hoffman. Free.

11/18, Saturday, 3 & 8 p.m., Dana Auditorium

Middlebury College Community Chorus

An annual concert celebrating the season of Thanksgiving, performed by Middlebury College students, staff, faculty, and singers from towns throughout the area with two performances. Free.

11/18, Saturday, 7 p.m., 11/19, Sunday, 3 p.m., MCA, Robison Concert Hall

Dance Alumni Showing

Recent alumni return to provide an update on their careers in dance and to perform excerpts from their latest creative works. The showing is the capstone of the multiday "Alumni Takeover" in which recent graduates of the Dance program return to perform and mentor curent students.

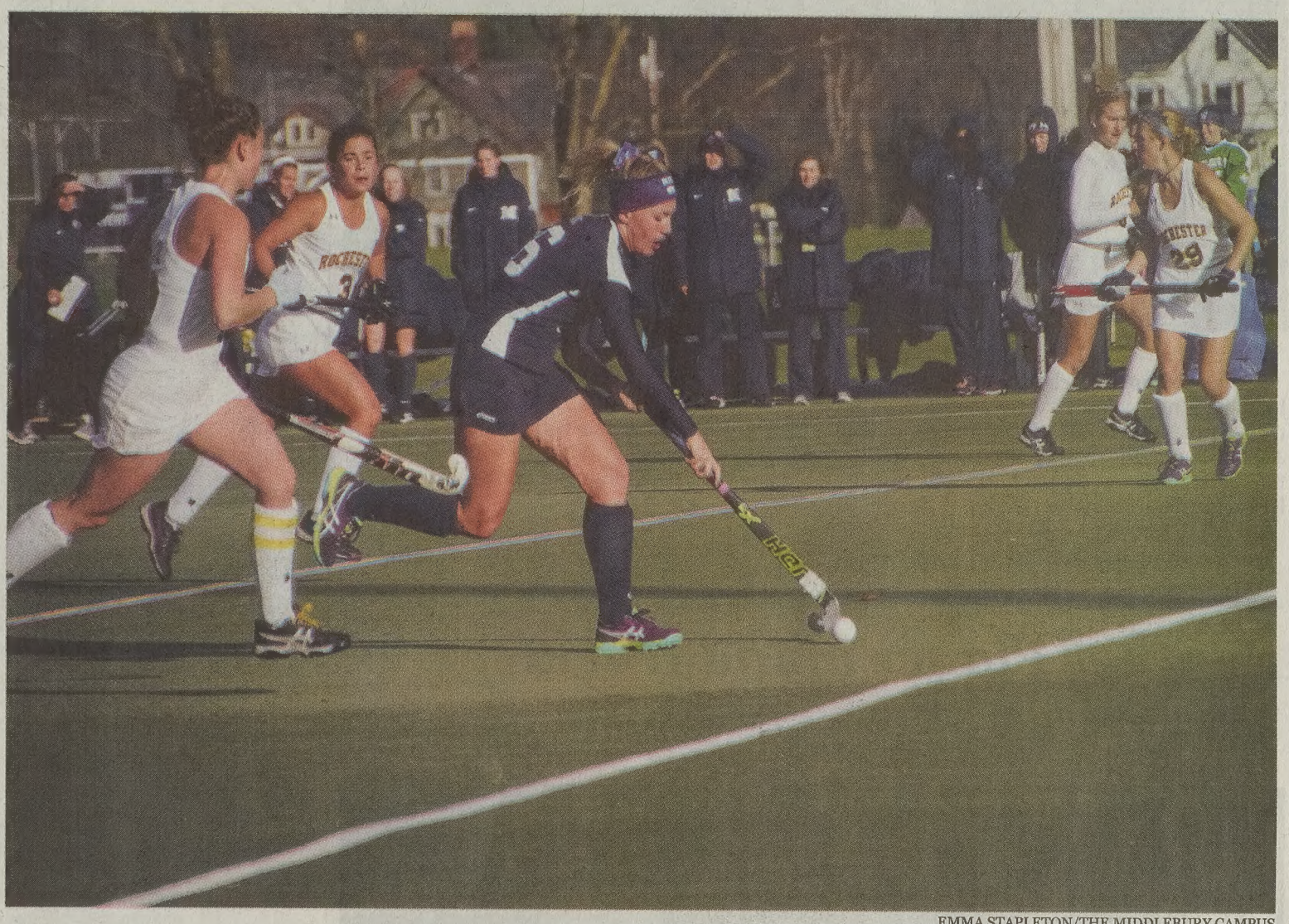
11/16, Thursday, 8 p.m., MCA, Dance Theatre

SPORTS

SAME-OLD, SAME-OLD

Field Hockey Freezes No. 14 Rochester 5–0 at Kohn to Advance to NCAA Final Four

Panthers to Play Franklin & Marshall Tomorrow Night in Louisville, Kentucky, at 7 p.m.



EMMA STAPLETON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Emma Johns '20 capped off Middlebury's 5–0 win over Rochester in the NCAA Regional Final with a goal in the 66th minute.

FOOTBALL DEFEATS TUFTS TO FINISH STRONG SEASON 7–2

EMMA STAPLETON

The Panthers defeated Tufts 35–24 in their last game of the fall to finish 8–2 and second in the Nescac.
B8

MIKE BORENSTEIN

Basketball tips off and the puck drops for hockey this weekend. We've got some previews to prepare you with what to expect.

B6

WOMEN'S AND MEN'S SOCCER FIGHT HARD, FALL IN NCAAS

EMMA STAPLETON

The women's team managed to slip past Western Connecticut State 1–0 before dropping a 1–0 decision to MIT on Sunday. The men's squad fought hard and was true-to-form, playing in yet another 1–0 contest but couldn't capitalize on opportunities and fell to Stevens.

Women's on B7 Men's on B3

PLAYER AND TEAM OF THE WEEK

B2

RIGAS' AND CASE'S CRYSTAL BALL OF NFL PICKS WISDOM

B2

EDITORS' PICKS

B3

3. ROB ERICKSON (45–42, .517)

4. SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (44–53 .454)

ETHAN BRADY (9–5, .643)

Panthers Slam Door on First Two NCAA Opponents

By HEATHER BOEHM

The second-ranked women's field hockey team secured their ninth appearance to the NCAA Tournament's Final Four after breezing through last weekend's competition at Kohn field with a pair of dominant 5–0 victories over the University of New England and Rochester. Sunday's win over Rochester keeps the Panthers' hopes alive for a second national title in three years, and extends their winning streak to 14 games.

Elite Eight

MIDDLEBURY	**5**	Attendence: 140
Rochester	**0**	Referee: Kristie Toupin, Tink Heywood

Second Round

MIDDLEBURY	**5**	Attendence: 325
New England	**0**	Referee: Kristie Toupin, Tink Heywood

Looking to build on the previous weekend's Nescac title, the Panthers started off their NCAA tournament run by shutting out the University of New England on Saturday, Nov. 11, on Kohn Field.

The Panthers came out very strong, breaking past the UNE defense comfortably and scoring all five goals in the first 35 minutes of play. Within the first 10 minutes, Grace Jennings '19 put Middlebury on the board by ripping a shot past the Nor'easter goalie. The Panthers were able to get a second shot by UNE before the first half came to a close. The hosts got a 2–0 lead after Julia Richards '20 recorded her first goal of the weekend off a perfectly placed pass from Erin Nicholas '21.

With a little more than six minutes left in the half, the Panthers buckled down and got to work. The UNE defense was no match for Nicholas, as she moved with ease to knock a goal inside the far post. Annie Leonard '18 and Lauren Schweppe '18 extended Middlebury's lead closing out the first 35 minutes by tallying two more points for the Lady Panthers. This gave the Panthers a five goal lead going into halftime.

In the second half, Middlebury's defense held strong, denying the Nor'easters an opportunity to get on the scoreboard. They only allowed UNE a single shot throughout the entire period. This victory sent the Panthers to the regional final on Sunday, Nov. 12 on home turf.

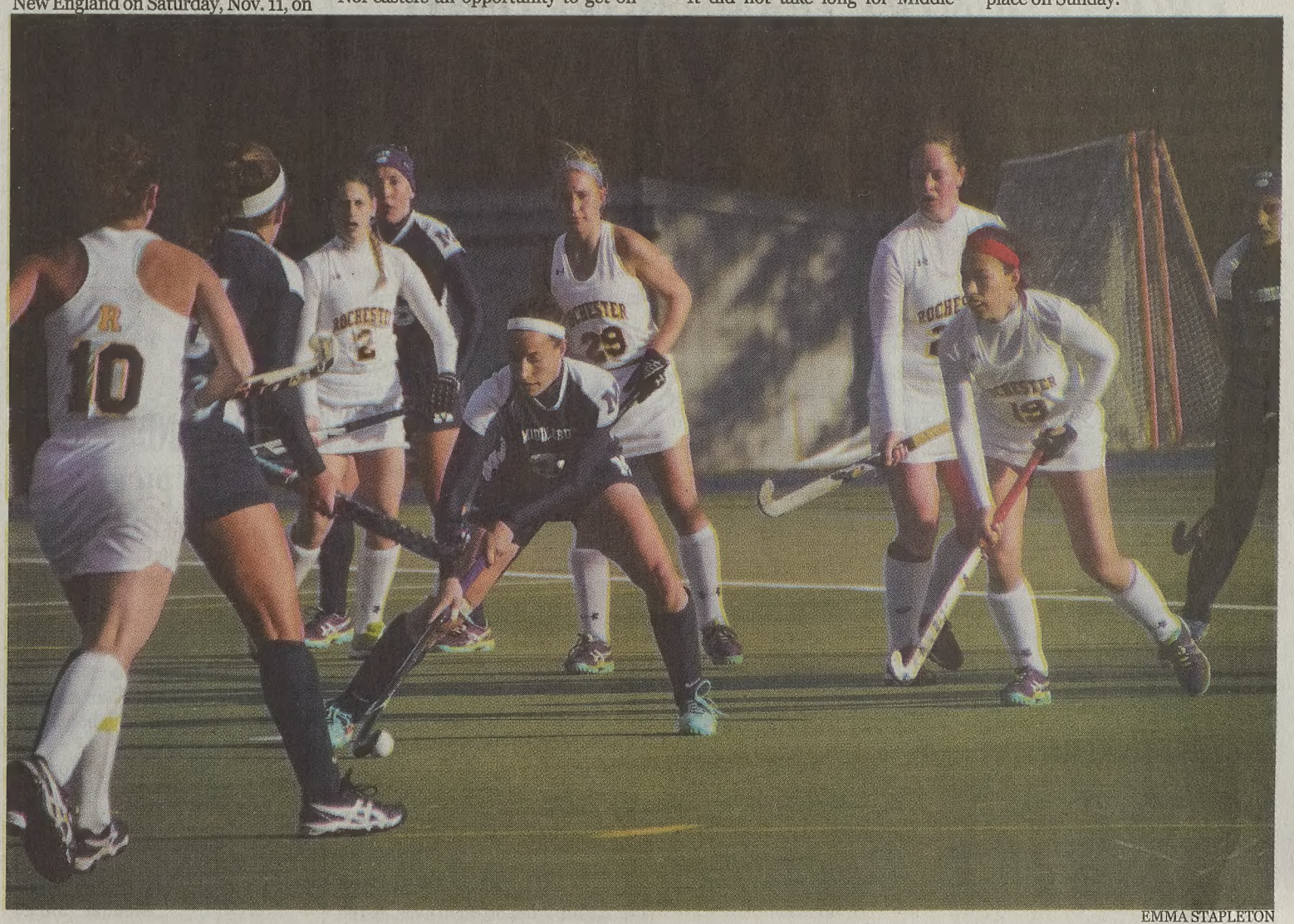
"I think a huge part of our team's success can be attributed to how well prepared we were for the other teams," said Ali Denby '20. "Our coach does such a phenomenal job scouting. We knew UNE was going to come out strong and aggressive, so we were prepared to match that energy from the start. This weekend was about playing our game with some adaptations."

After Saturday's success, the Panthers refused to back down against Rochester. Even though the first half was scoreless until the last few seconds, Middlebury dominated the field throughout the half taking 12 shots compared to Rochester's single shot. Richards broke the silence, giving the Panthers a one goal advantage over the Yellow Jackets heading into halftime. Her swing to the right post marks her second goal of the weekend and seventh goal of the season.

It did not take long for Middlebury to double its score. About seven minutes into the second 35 minutes, the Panther offense put pressure on Rochester as Marissa Baker '20 forced her ninth goal of the season past the Yellow Jacket goalie. The Lady Panthers were not satisfied yet, recording three more points to close out the regional final. In the 52nd minute, Schweppe sent an assist to Audrey Quirk '18. Nine minutes later, teammate Leonard tucked a shot past the Rochester goalie, and Emma Johns '20 scored the fifth and final goal of the contest. This win awarded Abby Furdak '21 her sixth career shutout.

"The teams feeling great after this weekend," said Richards. "This is exactly where we want to be and we know exactly what we want and why we're here."

Middlebury will travel to Louisville, Kentucky to face 10th-ranked Franklin & Marshall in the national semifinal on Friday at 7:00 p.m. The other semifinal matchup includes Messiah and The College of New Jersey. The victors will advance to the championship round that will take place on Sunday.



EMMA STAPLETON

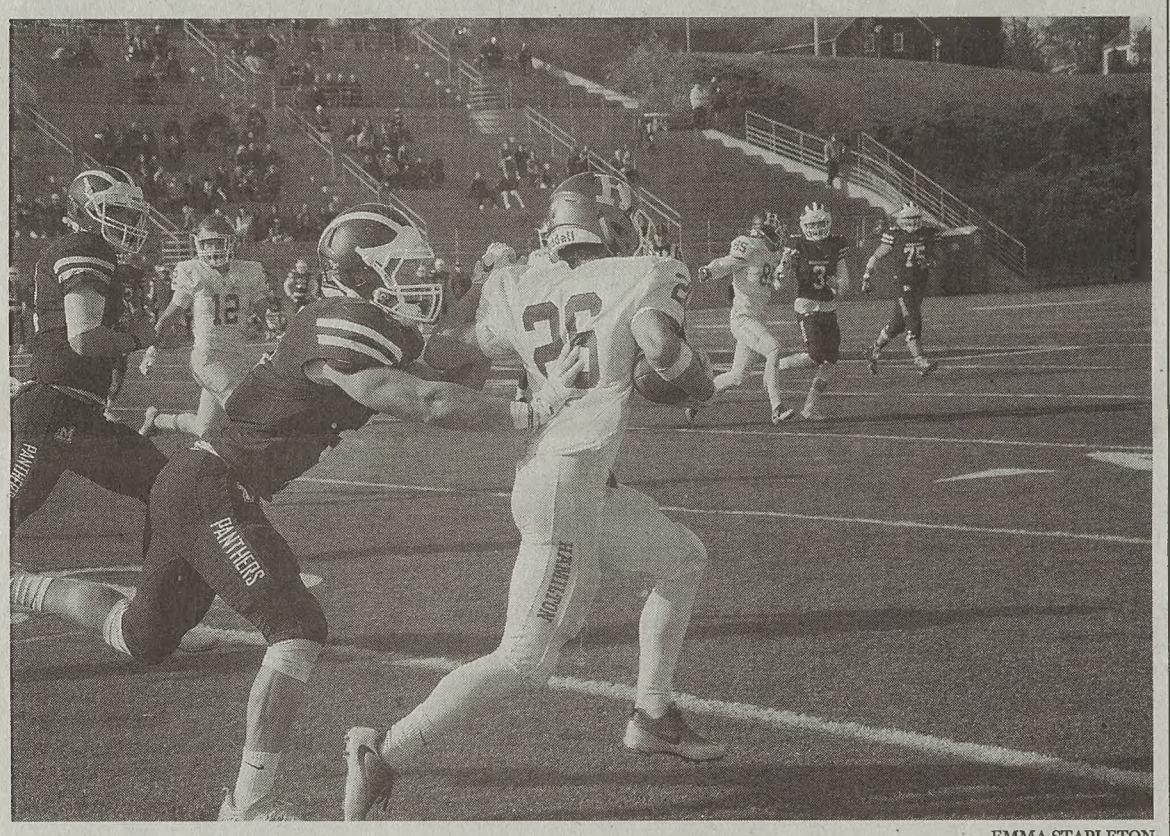
Annie Leonard '18 put Middlebury ahead of Rochester 4–0 in the second half of Sunday's contest, with her team-leading sixteenth goal of the season.

Panther Team of the Week:
Football

EMMA STAPLETON

We would put field hockey here, but they've been here the last few weeks and expect them to be here next week as the national champions so we went with football instead. The Panthers took down Tufts (5–3) 35–24, without starting quarterback Jared Lebowitz '17.5. In his place, Jack Meservy '19 went 26–45 for 275 and three touchdowns passing. With the win, Middlebury finished the season 7–2 and, combined with Amherst's loss to Williams, in second place in the Nescac behind Trinity (8–1).

Panther Player of the Week:
Wesley Becton '18



EMMA STAPLETON

Becton was named co-Defensive Player of the week for the second time this season. Becton finished with a game-high 11 tackles, 8 of which were solo tackles, 4.5 tackles for loss, and 3.5 sacks that totaled 34 yards in losses for Tufts. The 11-tackle day brought his total to 62 on the season, which led a Panthers squad in which four players accounted for more than 50 tackles (Aaron Slodowitz '18 with 60, John Jackson '18 with 56 and Kevin Maxwell '19 with 52).

Becton offered what was probably the defensive highlight of the game for the Panthers as well. In the fourth quarter, with the Panthers ahead by nine, 33–24, Becton sacked the Tufts quarterback for a 10-yard loss to give the Panthers their final points of the day, and the season, and which all but sealed their 35–24 victory.

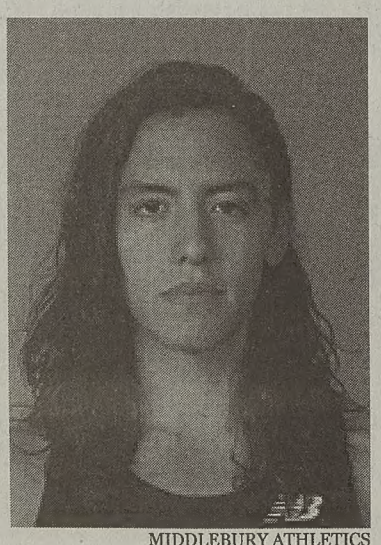
CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS MOVE ONTO NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

By JORDAN HOWELL

At the NCAA Regional Championships hosted by Southern Maine on Saturday, Nov. 11, the women's cross country team finished in fourth in a field of 56 teams and the men's team came in third in a field of 55. The next day, both teams were selected to compete in the 2017 NCAA championship races on Saturday, Nov. 18, at the Principia College North Farm Cross Country Course in Elsah, Illinois.

The women's team placed fourth in the regional championship with a total of 113 points. The only teams in front of them were MIT with a score of 56, Tufts with a score of 92 and Williams with a score of 106. Abigail Nadler '19 was the fastest Middlebury runner with a time of 20:49.4, which won her fifth place in the race. Next up for Middlebury were Kate MacCary '19 and Meg Wilson '20 in 20th and 26th-place, respectively. MacCary's finished in 21:46.4 and Wilson in 22:10.4. Read Allen '18 captured thirtieth place with a time of 22:11.9. The final scorer for Middlebury was Rory Kelly '19 with a time of 22:17.3, which put her in thirty-sixth place.

The men's team placed third with a total of 124 points. The two teams in front of them were Amherst with 91 points and MIT with 81 points. The first scorer for the men was Ascencion Aispuro '18 who was the fourth competitor to cross the line, and he did so with a time of 25:32.9. The next scorer was Matt D'Aquila '21 in 15th-place with a time of 25:50.9. Then, in 25th-place was Harrison Knowlton '19 with a time 26:01.9. The final two scorers for the men were Theo Henderson '20 with a time of 26:10.3 and Henry Fleming '20 with a time of 26:22.2. Henderson finished in 31st and Fleming came in 49th.



MIDDLEBURY ATHLETICS

Ascencion Aispuro '18.

Fleming made sure to praise the efforts of the entire team, especially Aispuro and D'Aquila. "Our captain, Ascencion, had an amazing day," said Fleming. "Matt got 15th, making him the fastest freshman in the region which is really exciting for the team."

Both the women's and men's teams were awarded with at-large teams to the NCAA championships. This marks the 22nd-consecutive appearance in the national championship race for the women's squad, and the seventh-consecutive time the men's team has received a bid to run at the championships.

The women's team's race starts on Saturday at noon, while the gun will sound for the men's race at 1:15.

"As a team we need to have a complete day in which every guy feels solid," said Fleming, as both the men and the women prepare for their final race of the season. "It's going to take an aggressive start and a lot of energy, a lot of fun, and a lot of high fives at the starting line to really get ready to go from the gun."

RIGAS' AND CASE'S NFL PICKS

TEN (+7) @ PIT Tonight 8:25 ET, NFL o/u: 44	Rigas: TEN, under Case: PIT, over
DET (-3) @ CHI 1 ET, FOX o/u: 41.5	Rigas: DET, over Case: CHI, under
TB @ MIA (-3) 1 ET, FOX o/u: 40.5	Rigas: TB, over Case: TB, under
LAR @ MIN (-2.5) 1 ET, FOX o/u: 46	Rigas: LAR, over Case: MIN, under
JAX (-.7.5) @ CLE 1 ET, CBS o/u: 37.5	Rigas: JAX, over Case: JAX, over
KC (-10.5) @ NYG 1 ET, CBS o/u: 44.5	Rigas: KC, under Case: NYG, over
BAL @ GB (+2) 1 ET, CBS o/u: 38	Rigas: GB, under Case: BAL, over
AZ (-1.5) @ HOU 1 ET, FOX o/u: 43.5	Rigas: HOU, under Case: AZ, over
WAS @ NO (-7.5) 1 ET, CBS o/u: 51	Rigas: NO, over Case: WAS, over
BUF @ LAC (-4) 4:05 ET, CBS o/u: 43.5	Rigas: BUF, under Case: LAC, over
CIN @ DEN (-2.5) 4:25 ET, CBS o/u: 40	Rigas: DEN, over Case: DEN, over
NE (-6.5) @ OAK 4:25 ET, CBS o/u: 52	Rigas: NE, over Case: OAK, over
PHI (-3) @ DAL SNF, NBC o/u: 48	Rigas: PHI, over Case: PHI, over
ATL @ SEA (-3) SNF, NBC o/u: 45	Rigas: SEA, over Case: ATL, over

Last Week: Rigas: 17–11
Case: 16–12

Overall: Rigas: 103–100
Case: 103–100

RIGAS' AND CASE'S CBB PICKS

No. 15 Xavier @ Wisconsin
Tonight 8:30 ET, FS1
Case: Xavier
Rigas: Wisconsin

Virginia @ VCU
Friday 4:00 ET, CBSSN
Case: VCU
Rigas: Virginia

Jackson St. @ St. Bonaventure
Saturday 4:00 ET,
Case: St. Bonaventure
Rigas: St. Bonaventure

No. 10 USC @ Vanderbilt
Sunday 8:00 ET, SECN
Case: USC
Rigas: USC

No. 23 UCLA vs. Creighton
Monday 7:00 ET, ESPNU
Case: UCLA
Rigas: Creighton

RIGAS' AND CASE'S NBA PICKS

Golden State @ Boston
Tonight 8:00 ET, TNT
Case: Golden State
Rigas: Boston

Oklahoma City @ San Antonio
Friday 8:00 ET, ESPN
Case: San Antonio
Rigas: Oklahoma City

Washington @ Toronto
Sunday 3:30 ET
Case: Washington
Rigas: Washington

Cleveland @ Detroit
Monday 7:00 ET
Case: Cleveland
Rigas: Detroit

GREAT 8 EIGHT

RANKING **TEAM**
Case's Court

1 **Field Hockey**
They are two wins away from another title.

2 **Cross Country**
They had yet another good showing last weekend, and both teams qualified for the NCAA Championships.

3 **Football**
Their 7–2 finish is a one win improvement on last season's 6–2 record — the Nescac took a big step allowing the extra game...the conference's next step is to stop the nonsense and let our teams compete on a national stage.

4 **Women's Soccer**
They won an NCAA tournament game for the second straight year last weekend before bowing out to MIT; I guess the Engineers got their revenge after Midd knocked them out last year... next year, a rubber match?

5 **Men's Soccer**
They battled hard for coach Saward. Congratulations to Coach on a great career!

6 **Women's Hockey**
Expectations are sky-high for the Panthers who were one OT period away from the Final Four last season. They start the year sixth in the national polls.

7 **Men's Basketball**
Like women's hockey, they were also excruciatingly close to the Final Four last season, and start the new campaign ranked in the top 10 — no. 8.

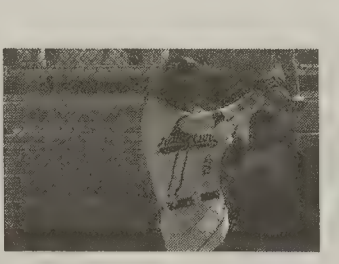
8 **Women's Basketball**
They showed a lot of promise last year — look for more progress this season.

EDITORS' PICKS

1. WILL CASE (121–75, .617)

2. ANDREW RIGAS (99–75, .569)

3. ROB ERICKSON (45–42, .517)



4. SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (44–53 .454)

ETHAN BRADY (9–5, .643)

FIELD HOCKEY: Will they be national champs next time the newspaper comes out?	NO Messiah may give them a hard time (they eliminated us last year) and TCNJ beat us in 2014 in the Final Four. I think we'll beat F&M, but am worried about the final.	YES Three straight 5–0 victories against NCAA tournament teams. If they get a rematch with Messiah, they're going to take them down.	YES At this point, you'd have to be silly not to pick Midd. Roll blue baby.	YES ALL THE WAY. I'm getting goosebumps now, thinking about the possibility of a second in three years.	YES Fhock on.
WOMEN'S HOCKEY: Total goals in each game this weekend to open the season: **Friday o/u: 3.5** **Saturday o/u: 4.5**	OVER/UNDER I share Rob's feelings about goals. But it's going under on Saturday.	OVER/OVER I have a feeling Midd is going to score a lot of goals this weekend.	OVER/OVER I like goals, what can I say?	UNDER/UNDER I'm hoping they can beat my expectations!	OVER/UNDER This is hockey, not the home run derby.
FUTURES: Women's basketball PPG on season Sarah Kaufman '18: o/u: 10.5	OVER Although it will be close as they spread the ball around.	UNDER Might as well go under. We're probably going to forget about these picks by the end of the season anyways.	OVER Trending up.	OVER 12 ppg, to be exact.	OVER Why not?
FUTURES: Women's hockey wins over/under **17.5**	UNDER They had 16 in last year's regular season, and that included a three-game losing streak. I think they'll push right up against it this year.	UNDER We should have specified we were talking regular season. I think they'll make a run in the NCAA tournament, putting themselves way over 17.5	OVER Strong senior class this year. No surprise, but still.	OVER Over BABY!	UNDER On this one, I rise or fall with the leaders.
FUTURES: Men's basketball wins over/under **17.5**	OVER Rob...this is a regular season over/under... c'mon man! But I'll take the over. They may win as many as 20 — but they may have growing pains early that help them later, so I think we see 18 or 19 wins.	OVER The Road to Salem begins in the regular season, when they win more than 17.5 games.	OVER Do I think they hit the over? Definitely	OVER Is this even a question?	OVER Oh it's a question, and this is an answer.
#MACTION: Buffalo @ Ball State tonight...#maction	BUFFALO Who doesn't love #MACTION? I badly want to take Ball St., but all indications are that they flatlined over a month ago with no hope for revival — last four games: closest they came to a W was a 41-point home loss to Toledo.	BUFFALO None of us love #MACTION like Will does. Why does he love it? I don't know.	BALL ST.	BUFFALO	BUFFALO I just like bison.
CFB triple dipping: The Citadel @ Clemson (-50) Saturday, Nov. 11	THE CITADEL I think this is a no-brainer.	CLEMSON The Tigers beat their only non-Power 5 opponent by 53, they'll keep that going this week.	CLEMSON Nobody even gives lines on these games? Yikes. I'll take Clemson -50.	CLEMSON Clemenson by 1000.	CLEMSON How 'bout them oranges?
CFB triple dipping: Mercer @ Alabama (-50) Saturday, Nov. 11	MERCER For those who were not aware, Mercer beat The Citadel earlier this year 24–14 in a battle for the coveted five-spot in the Socon.	MERCER The Crimson Tide, on the other hand, only beat their two non-Power 5 opponents by 31 and 18. They'll keep that streak going as well.	MERCER I'd give Mercer 50 points, though.	ALABAMA By a million.	MERCER Bama Bound ### (not).

Men's Soccer Makes a Stand in Saward's Last Game

By RILEY PLANT

The men's soccer team (12-7) saw its season come to a close last Saturday, Nov. 11, in the first round of the NCAA tournament as they fell 1-0 to Stevens University (12-6-2). It was the team's 11th 1–0 decision of the season, and the loss means that they finish 9–2 in one point games.

Despite edging Stevens 9-6 in shots, 4-2 in shots on goal and 4-2 in corner kicks, Middlebury was charged with a handball in the penalty box in the 89th minute, resulting in a Stevens penalty kick which Kevin Brito '20 of Stevens was able to net for the game winner.

The Panthers controlled the first half and outshot Stevens 7–1. Forward Brandon Reid '21, arguably the team's most consistently delivering player throughout the season, had three chances in the first half. The first came in the 12th minute when he found space in the box but sent a shot just wide. In the 35th minute, Reid again almost managed to find the back of the net for his teammates when he connected with a well-placed corner kick from the foot of Ben Potter '20, but the chance was denied by Stevens goalie Aaron Henry. Reid saw another set-piece opportunity in the 39th minute, but again was denied.

In the second half, Drew Goulart '20 had the first of the Panthers' opportunities when he found himself alone against the Stevens goal-keeper in the 51st. Again though, Aaron Henry saved the shot, and maybe even the game, for Stevens. 10 minutes later, Daniel O'Grady '19 also had a chance and ripped a shot from 15 yards out, but he was just high as the ball skipped off of the top-crossbar.

With just two minutes left in regulation, Stevens got a steal in the Middlebury attacking third and sent a long ball to the front where several Stevens and Middlebury players were gathered.

After a couple touches as Stevens tried to feel out a good opportunity, Andrew Masur decided to unleash an attempt from just inside the 15-yard box. A Middlebury defender found himself in the wrong place at the wrong time as the shot bounced off his hand, which gave Brito the opportunity of the day. Taking the penalty kick, he knocked the ball into the back of the net easily and won the day for Stevens.

Middlebury did manage to get one last opportunity off of a 90th minute Goulart corner kick, but the attempt was punched away, sending Stevens on in the tournament and Middlebury home. Stevens' goalkeeper tallied 4 saves while Yeager managed 1 save out of 2 shots on goal.

The Panthers will graduate five senior players this year, including Yeager, Jed Sass '18, Brad Willis '18, Enzo Wiener '18 and Trevor Schmitt '18. The five players will leave Middlebury with a four-year record of 44-9-16.

"I'm gutted not to send coach Saward out with a Nescac title," said Enzo Wiener, a captain. Wiener reflected on the whirlwind that the last two weeks has been for this team:

"We battled the defending national champions last week in a game that truly could've gone either way. After the grit we showed, I couldn't be more excited to see what this team does next year and the years after, for they have the talent to be a top team in the country, and I am confident that coach Elias will lead this incredible group to new heights."

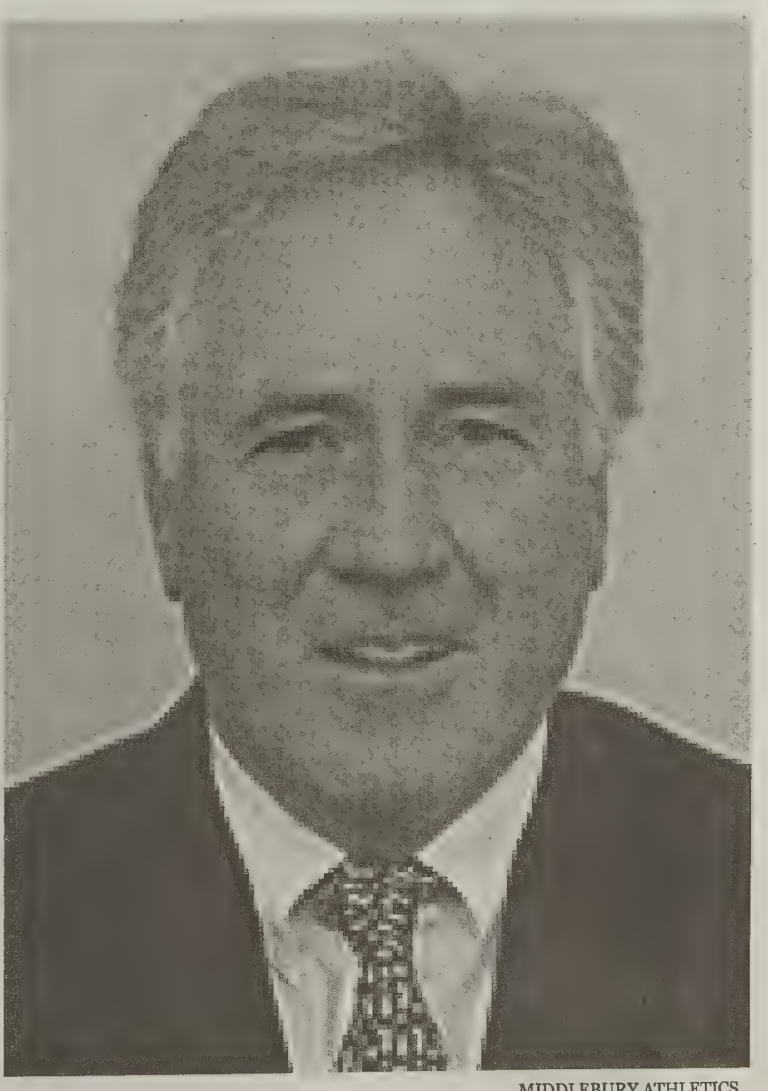
As Wiener mentioned, also departing will be the team's long-time coach, David Saward. Saward has been in the role for 33 years and notched 359 career wins. However, Saward was less concerned with the immediate loss and more reflective and grateful for his time serving our school.

"I am very proud of the team . . . [and] loved every moment here of my job. The people I have had the privilege to coach have been magnificent and that includes 21 years of coaching the women's Squash team and 33 years of soccer players," he said.

"I have been so lucky to work with so many exceptional coach/educator professionals in our department from whom I have learned so much about the craft of being an effective coach.

"Finally I have been so fortunate to have worked under three truly outstanding Athletic Directors in Tom Lawson, Russ Reilly and most recently Erin Quinn. Without their tremendous leadership the collegial atmosphere around our department would not exist.

"In leaving the program with Alex Elias I know I leave it in very capable hands. Alex was a fabulous player here who has turned into a thoughtful professional who will take the program forward to greater heights."



MIDDLEBURY ATHLETICS

David Saward.

MILLIE VON PLATEN

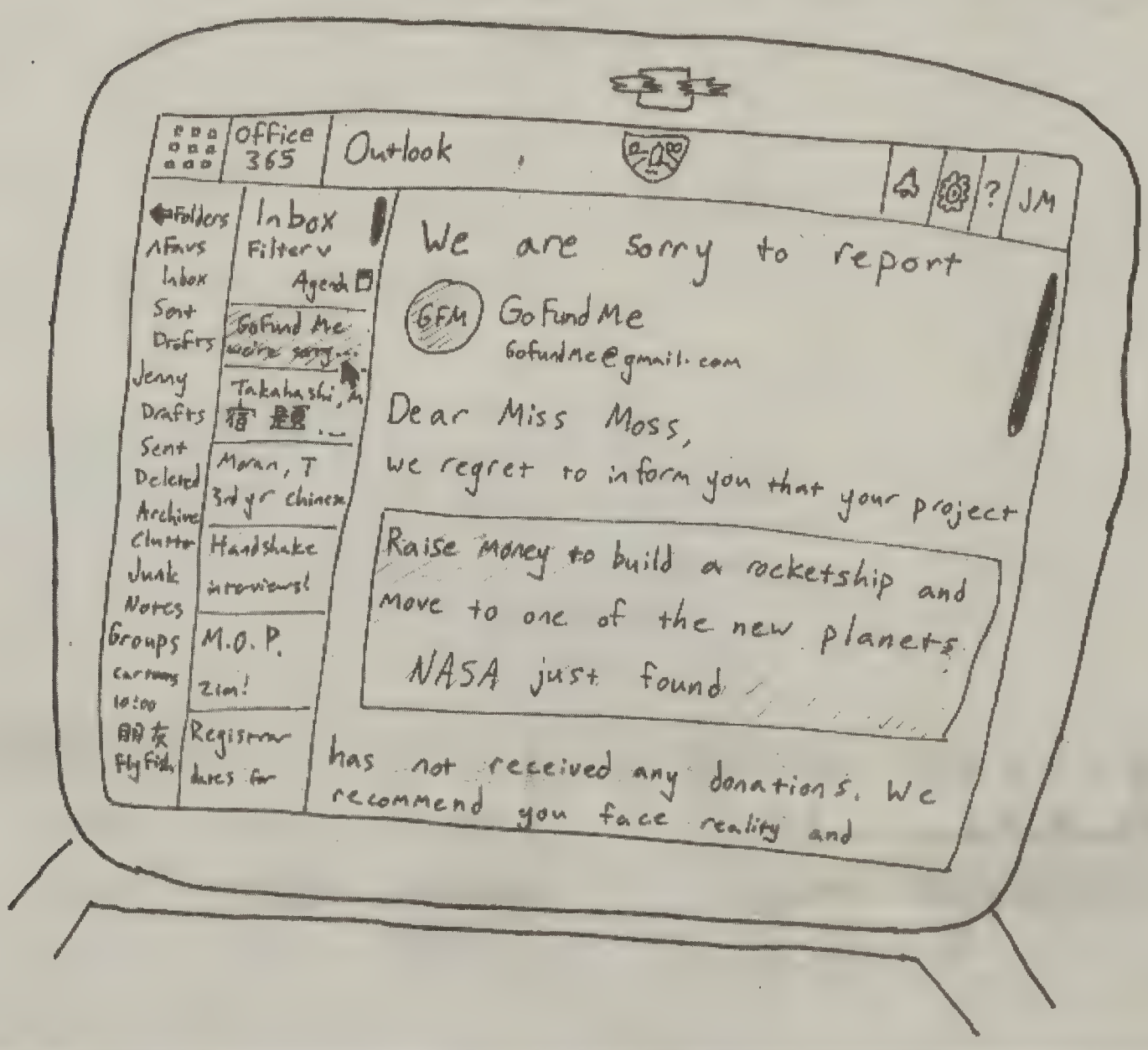
MEET SPEEDIE!

Speedie is super-duper sweet and although she is on the shyer side and may take a little while to warm up, once in a home, we think she will come out of her shell.

Speedie does well with the other cats here at the shelter and really enjoys having different hidey holes to escape to when she feels overwhelmed.

Speedie doesn't mind being picked up and is a healthy mixture of affectionate and independent. She will do really with a patient, laid-back family. (5 years, shorthaired Tortie, spayed female)

For more information, contact Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society, at (802) 388-1100 or shelter@homewardboundanimals.org.

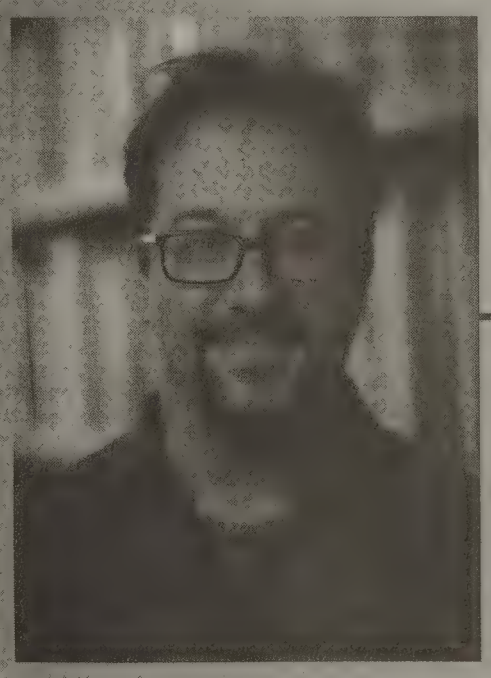


WHAT?!

JENNY MOSS

Fueling the Genocidal Regime

CHINA'S HISTORICAL SUPPORT OF THE CAMBODIAN KHMER ROUGE AND CONTEMPORARY IMPLICATIONS FOR CHINA'S REGIONAL AND GLOBAL POWER



Andrew Mertha is a professor of government at Cornell University, specializing in Chinese and Cambodian politics, particularly on political institutions, the policy process, and the exercise of power, also the President of the Center for Khmer Studies (CKS), author of numerous articles and book chapters.

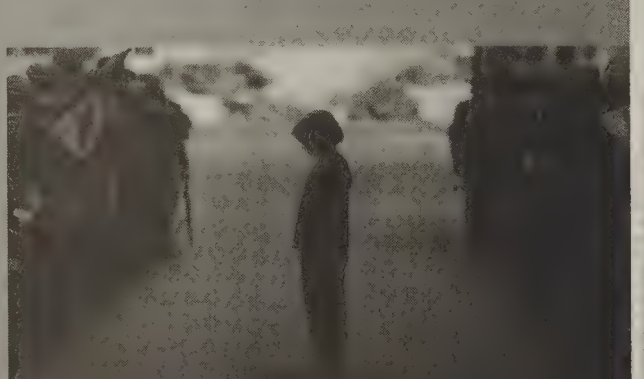
Andrew Mertha

Time: Nov. 17th (Fri.)
4:30 – 6:00 pm

Location: Robert A. Jones House

Movie Screening of
First They Killed My Father

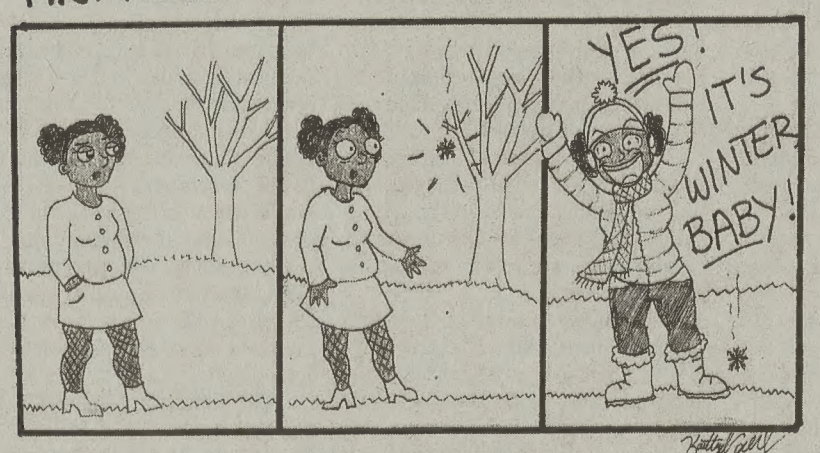
Nov. 14th 4:00PM at the Marquis Theater!



RSVP for dinner at Brainerd Common House
6:30 pm @ go/projectpengyouRSVP

PROJECT 朋友

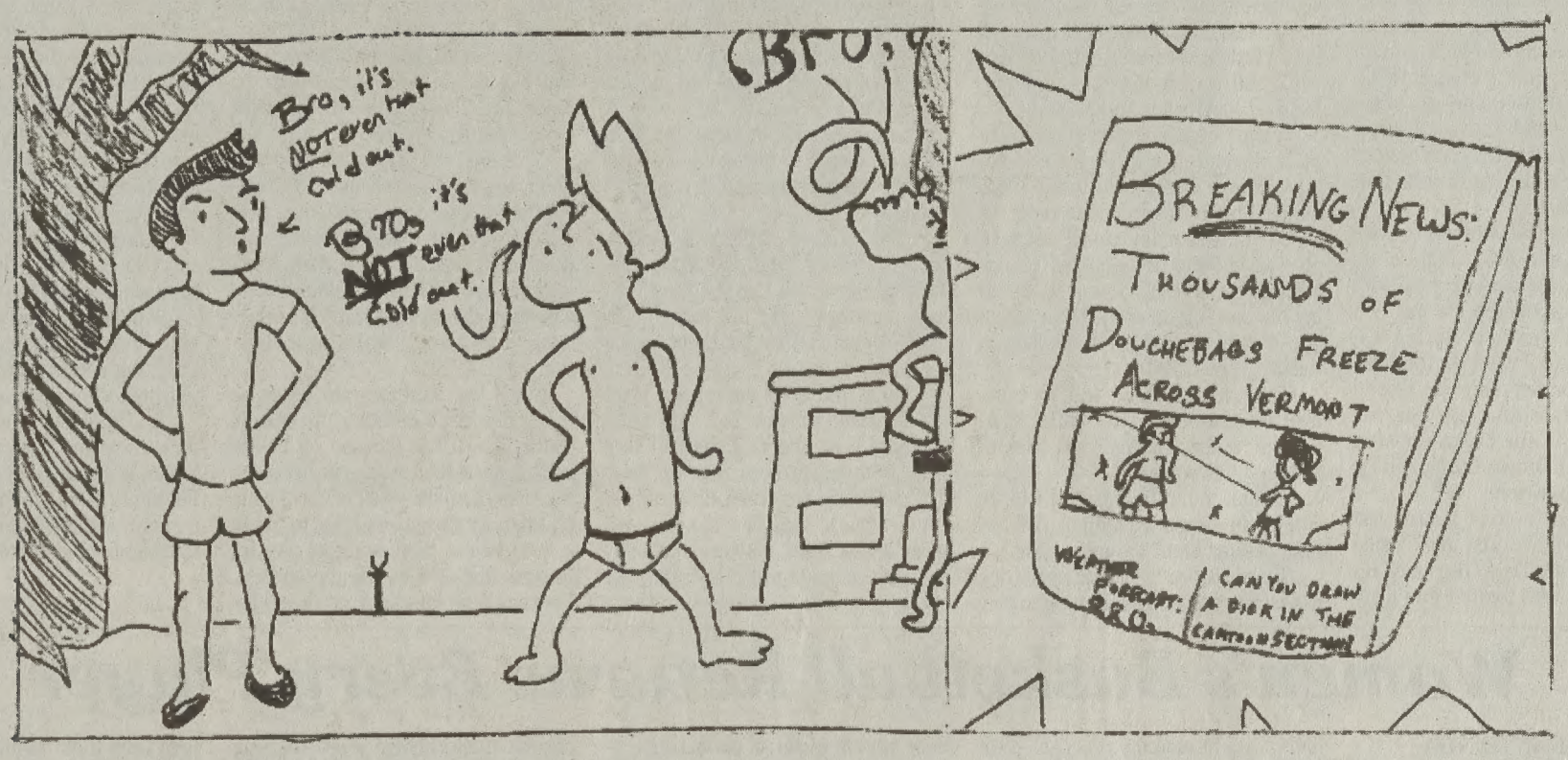
Event organized by Project Pengyou, Middlebury Chapter
And co-sponsored by the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs, MCAB Speakers Committee, Brainerd and Wonnacott Common



KAITLYND COLLINS

ELLIE EBERLEE

MICHAEL FRANK


Bro, it's NOT even that cold out.
Bro, it's NOT even that cold out.
BREAKING NEWS:
THOUSANDS OF DOUCHEBAGS FREEZE ACROSS VERMONT
WEATHER FORECAST: 0°F
CAN YOU DRAW A DICK IN THE CARTOON SECTION?

LOCAL | HANDCRAFTED | FRESHLY PREPARED | AT YOUR CONVENIENCE

GREEN PEPPERS

THE OFFICIAL PIZZA OF THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

[802] 388-3164

Men's Basketball Sets Eyes on Three-peat, Salem

By ANDREW RIGAS

The men's basketball team's goals entering the season are clear. First, the Panthers want to secure home-court advantage for the Nescac playoffs by finishing first in the regular season standings. Then, they want to win the Nescac for the third straight season, this time at Pepin Gymnasium. From there, having secured a spot in the NCAA tournament, they have their sights set on Salem, Virginia, and their first Final Four berth since 2011.

Last season, the Panthers had a trip to Salem within their reach, but ultimately fell a bucket short, losing to Williams 79–75 in the NCAA quarterfinals. The bitter taste of losing to a Nescac rival on their home court in one of the biggest games in school history remains in the mouths of the returning Panthers.

"We were a minute, a bucket away last year," said team captain Jack Daly '18. "So we know what it takes to get back there, the mentality, the work ethic it will take."

To achieve these goals, Middlebury must find ways to replace the production of four graduating seniors, including All-American Matt St. Amour '17 who is third on the program's all-time scoring list, and four-year starting point guard and All-Nescac selection Jake Brown '17. The class of 2017 went a combined 89–31 over its four years at Middlebury.

Daly and his fellow captains, Nick Tarantino '18 and Adisa Majors '18, make up the senior class charged with leading the effort to replicate and then build upon last year's success. Daly, a two-year starter who led the Panthers in rebounding and was second in scoring and assisting last year, will take the lead in the backcourt after partnering with Brown and St. Amour for the last two seasons.

"We had three great guards last year, now we have just Jack," said Tarantino about Daly, the only returning guard who figured into head coach Jeff Brown's regular rotation last year. "This guy is going to have the ball in his hands, instead of a third of the time, like 95 percent of the time."

On the other hand, Daly and Tarantino both expect the front court to assume a bigger role since that is where the bulk of Middlebury's experience returns. Majors (9.6) is Middlebury's second returning leading scorer, Eric McCord '19 (7.9) third, Tarantino (6.8) fourth and Matt Folger '20 (6.5) fifth.

"I expect between Nick, Adisa, Matt and Eric, who were kind of seen as second-tier to the three guards last year, to be able to fill the leadership voids left by Brown and St. Amour on the court," Daly said. "I expect them to increase production, rebounding, scoring and efficiency. They're going to be the face of our team this year. So, for them, their consistency is going to be expected, and they're ready to take on that challenge."

Unlike last year, when the Panthers were perimeter-oriented, Daly and Tarantino agree their big men will play much bigger roles this season.

"The majority of our returning players, besides Jack, that played significant minutes last year are big men," said Tarantino. "I think we'll play a little more inside-out this year, while still playing high-tempo, pushing the basketball in transition."

What Tarantino refers to, up-tempo basketball, is a given for Middlebury men's basketball these days. Coach Brown has built his program based on three main tenets: fast tempo, passing and defense, and he has been quite successful doing so, entering his 21st season at the helm with a 336–189 record which is the best in the program's history.

Even though there will be turnover in personnel, Daly and Tarantino know the Panthers will stick to Brown's philosophy.

"I think our playing style will be similar in terms of tempo, defense first, passing first," Tarantino said.

"Coach Brown preaches every day in practice that we're still going to play up-tempo, score 90 points a game, get 20 assists a game, and lock up on defense," added Daly. "That's the way he's coached for 20 years, and he recruits players that can do that and adjust to that style has been very successful for him over his tenure."

Several players who were either not on the team last year or played sparingly will need to step up and play more meaningful roles for Brown. The team especially needs players who can shoot the basketball, since the graduating class combined for over 70 percent of the team's three pointers last season. A playmaker or two will also need to emerge since Jake Brown created so many plays last year with his passing and quickness to the basket.

Tarantino and Daly admitted that it is not possible to replace two great players like St. Amour and Brown individually, so the team must figure out how to do it collectively.

"We can't expect to replace any of them," Daly said. "You almost have to look to multiple players to do certain qualities that they brought to the team. So no one person is going to shoot as well as Matt or at the rate he shot at, but someone can hit one more three than he did last year or a freshman can come in and hit a three. No one player will create as well as Jake did, but a couple players can make a couple plays each game. So you really can't replace great players like that. They go down in history at Middlebury, so it playing with the players you have."

In the backcourt, Perry DeLorenzo '20 and Joey Leighton '20 have an opportunity to fill the shooting void as sophomores after not being given many opportunities in their rookie seasons.

"Perry and Joey have been playing very well in practice," said Daly. "They've been shooting the ball very well. If they can keep that up, they can definitely see some time on the court because they can knock down some shots. They maybe didn't play as much as they wanted last year, but taking the year to watch the college game, to watch St. Amour and Brown, they can really take something away from that. You definitely see that in practice, where their IQs of the game have definitely jumped from last year. It's always great to have people on the court who can knock down shots and put points on the board."

Max Bosco '21 and Ryan Cahill '21 could have similar impacts in their first year as DeLorenzo and Leighton, spreading the floor for a Panther team in fairly desperate need of spacing on the offensive end.

"Max has been shooting the lights out in practice," Daly said. "And Ryan is a very versatile big who has been knocking down some shots and can put the ball on the floor."

Jack Farrell '21 profiles as a player with the potential to replace some of Jake Brown's playmaking from the point guard position. He can handle the ball when Daly is out of the game or pair with Daly in two point guard lineups that coach Brown used so often last season.

"He's very quick. His quickness is very similar to Jake's from last year," Daly said. "He's an energizer bunny. The kid is up-and-down the court in three seconds, he can play make, is on your hip the entire 94 feet. He can definitely have an impact because he can play make and he can play defense, and those are two things coach looks for in a point guard."

Will Ingram '21, a tough-nosed defender, Griffin Kornaker '21, who is injured right now, and James Finn '20.5, a walk-on, round out a first-year class that complements each other well by providing a combination of shooting, defense and inside play to support the team's returning foundation.

Since the Panthers are filling so many new roles entering the season, coach Brown has focused on instilling his basketball values in his team. More so than last year, Brown has to build from the ground up to reach a level where they can compete for Nescac and NCAA championships. He has spent a lot of time preaching an up-tempo, passing offense to his team, as well as using a lot of practice to put half-court offensive in place. Defensively and offensively, he wants to ensure that his team is always communicating, since younger guys are often more timid on the court. Brown and his team recognize how far they are from their lofty goals at this point in the season, and how capable they are of accomplishing them if they commit to improving as a unit.

People outside the program expect big things from Middlebury again this winter as well: D3hoops.com has the Panthers at no. 8 in its national preseason poll.

Still, Middlebury is looking up in the rankings at No. 3 Williams and No. 6 Tufts. As always, the battle for the Nescac championship will be fierce. The Panthers know they can take nothing for granted because everyone is going to be at their best against the two-time defending Nescac champions.

"Being that reigning champion, people always want to take you down," said Daly. "Going into every game, we expect the best from our opponent, which means we have to bring our A-game every day. Those rankings really don't mean anything to us because they are based off last year. They aren't based off our current roster. It's nice to be recognized, but at the end of the day, it doesn't mean anything. We have to come into every game with the same mentality of do whatever it takes to win."

Tarantino put the rankings in perspective, especially given that it is the preseason rankings.

"It's only a ranking, and we're playing for a championship, a Final Four," added Tarantino. "We're not playing for the Coaches poll."

The Panthers will take the court for the first time tomorrow evening at 7 p.m. in Pepin Gym where they host Fitchburg St. in the Middlebury Tournament, the first ever regular season tournament held at Middlebury.

Women's Basketball Returns Every Player

By IMRAN GANDA

The women's basketball team has high hopes for their new season that will tip-off in two days on Saturday, Nov. 18, when they will take part in the Emerson Tip-Off Classic. Expectations are high, especially, because the Panthers return last year's cohort that finished 17–8, good enough to earn a home game in the Nescac Tournament.

Perhaps the most impressive part of last season's overall success is that the team did not have a senior on the roster. Now, with everyone from last year's squad back, the addition of a pair of first-year guards, Kirsten Long '21 and Emily Wander '21, and the return of Eileen Daley '18, the prospects for the 2017–18 edition of the Panthers are exciting.

"We're going to be a much deeper team than we have been," Krasco said. "I think this is the biggest it's been since I've been here."

The roster size, now at 15, is in fact Krasco's deepest. It is probably the deepest team the Panthers have had in recent memory. This will have many advantages as the season progresses. For now though, fourth-year head coach K.J. Krasco is excited about the enthusiasm and promise her team has displayed in practice.

"We have no weak links and I firmly believe we have all the players to have a positive outcome," Krasco said. She, along with the rest of the coaching staff, hope to strengthen the hunger and ambition of this year's team.

Senior captain Rachel Collins '18 and junior captain Catherine Harrison '19 are determined to get the season off to a strong start. Since returning to campus in the fall, they have led offseason training by organizing pickup games and getting themselves and their teammates involved in lifting programs. This is just the tip of the iceberg of the behind-the-scenes steps the Panthers have taken to improve this offseason. The team feels that they collectively enter the season in peak physical condition, which has allowed Krasco to implement the team's strategies on both ends of the floor, and to focus on perfecting fundamentals and technical aspects of the game.

"Our practices have definitely been more competitive," Krasco said, hinting at how her team is ready to get the season underway.

Harrison will look to pick up where she left off last season in which she almost averaged a double-double with 9.6 points and 8.4 rebounds-per-game. Equally important to this season's success will be the development of the team's five sophomores Maya Davis '20, Betsy Knox '20, Kira Waldman '20, Vanessa Young '20 and Lily Kuntz '20. They will be of vital assistance for Harrison as they will add depth in the four and five positions. The quintet of sophomores have high expectations and their coaches and teammates will be counting on them to contribute.

"We expect a lot out of them and I think they are going to prove themselves from the get go," Coach Krasco said.

The Panthers hope to limit turnovers and to crash the boards harder despite their relative size disadvantage. Last season, most of their losses could be directly attributed to being out-played in the paint and to turnovers. No one is hiding from last season's pitfalls though. The team and the coaching staff have taken all of this to task head-on in practice.

Krasco cited weaknesses in rebounding last season to a lack of experience on the roster. Without senior leadership and with five first-years, Middlebury faced a steep learning curve. Now, they are ready to come out firing on all cylinders and look forward to positioning themselves to compete on the glass and win more second-chance opportunities.

If it was not already apparent, practice has become a focal point in the offseason and it will continue to be so throughout the season. The team and coaching staff are looking to make the most out of every practice and to understand the mindset that the next game is more important than their last. Maintaining a game-to-game approach and an even keel is something the Panthers believe can help keep them mentally in check as the year progresses.

"We had a couple early slip-ups against teams I feel we should've competed better against," Krasco said of last year's campaign. "We want to focus on the process and understand we have to do the little things very well."

The Panthers are excited and determined. While they are taking a game-to-game approach, they did admit that they are looking to make a deeper run in the conference tournament. Still, they do not want to get too far ahead of themselves with the understanding that each game plays a crucial part in the team's ability to reach its goals.

The Panthers tip-off on Saturday at 1 p.m. against Emerson for their first of two games in the Emerson Tip-Off and will wrap up the weekend against Mt. St. Mary's with a 1 p.m. Sunday tip. You can catch the Panthers in their first home action after Thanksgiving, when the Panthers take on Rensselaer on Wednesday, Nov. 29, at 6 p.m.

Women's Hockey Wants to Host Final Four

By SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ

The reigning Nescac champions start the hunt for their third title in four years on Friday, Nov. 17, when they will host the Trinity Bantams in Kenyon Arena. Last year, the Panthers finished with a 19–7–2 record, and although they fell short in their run to the Frozen Four, they are back with more hunger, more fire and more determination. Their schedule will not be easy, as seven of their opponents are nationally ranked or received votes — but the challenge is nothing new.

The winningest coach in the history of women's collegiate hockey, Bill Mandigo (541-142-39), enters his 30th season at the helm for the Panthers. Mandigo is a mainstay who will continue to lead his players in the right direction, hoping to send the Class of 2018 out with a Nescac ring and a national championship trophy.

From a roster point of view, the squad only graduated four players. Though they brought on several freshmen — 10 to be exact— senior captain Janka Hlinka '18 says it won't be a problem. In fact, she says, it will only help them.

"Our expectations this year are just like any other teams, we want to go as far as our season will let us. We have a large team this year we will be able to use our size to keep fresh legs on the ice. The true test will be our first game to see how much we have learned and how well we work together. I'm just excited to be with this group of people playing such a high level of hockey and I'm trying not to think that it's my last season at [Middlebury]."

Wulf echoed her sentiments and went into the depth about their expectations.

"Our expectations for this year are to build off our previous successes and create our own new success. Obviously, it's a new team every year, but we believe we have the talent and work ethic to be just as if not more successful than we were last year. We want to defend our Nescac title and do what no other team in our program has done which is three-peat as Nescac champs."

Beyond the Nescac champion, Wulf says the team has set an even loftier goal. One that is high, but undoubtedly achievable for this group.

"In addition, we not only want to be in the Final Four but host it. With that said, those are the bigger goals, and we a long way to go before we can get there. We need to focus on doing the little things first and not get too ahead of ourselves. We expect to win, but we need to take it one game at a time, so for us we are solely focused on playing Trinity [tomorrow] night in our home opener."

Middlebury has worked hard in the off season, skating several times a week, improving speed, communication and overall efficiency on the ice.

"The focus during the off-season/preseason has been our team motto this year 'All In,'" Wulf said. "Whether it's holding each other and ourselves accountable or making sure we clean up after ourselves, we want to all be on the same page and focus on the same goal. While we know we have potential, it's take hard work, grit, and mental toughness to get there.

"We have to trust the process and be just as committed to that as our team goals. We've been saying you're either all in or you're not in at all, and I think we've done a good job so far being all in together. We've worked extremely hard both on and off the ice this preseason, and we are excited to finally get to see where we are at this weekend with our first games.

"As crazy as it is that this is my last season, I'm looking forward to just being on the ice every day and playing with the great group we have. It's my favorite part of the day, and I can't wait to create more memories with this team.

Other seniors for the Panthers, Jessica Young '18 and Maddie Winslow '18, will look to lead the team again on the scoring front.Young netted 16 goals and notched 20 assists last season, and enters her senior campaign with 45 goals and 53 assists on her career. Winslow, who was the 2016 New England Division II-III Women's Player of the Year, enters her final season with career totals of 42 goals and 53 assists. Together, the duo is dangerous and anybody in Kenyon Arena should pay attention when they are on the ice.

"You tend to remember your last season the most," said Wulf, "so we want us to make this a special one and leave it all on the ice with no regrets. We have a very motivated and determined group, and I can't wait to see how we progress."

Overall, the Panthers are tough, experienced competitors. The roster is filled with speed, power and authority and they will undoubtedly be one of the top teams to be in the Nescac.

The season will get underway tomorrow night at 7 p.m. in Hartford, Connecticut, where they will face-off against Trinity.

Men's Hockey Ready to Bounce Back

By HEATHER BOEHM

The men's hockey team will be back in action this weekend when they face two of the teams from Maine, Colby and Bowdoin, on Saturday evening at 7 p.m. and Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. Coming off a three-win season, the Panthers are hungry for a winning year.

This year's team enters determined to prove that last season was an anomaly for Middlebury's historically strong hockey program. Their struggles were largely attributable to the numerous injuries that took many starters out of the lineup, which coincided with their typical hyper-competitive Nescac schedule.

"Even though we did not have the season we wanted to, we really grew as a team," said Ethan Cohen '19. "The adversity we faced will only make us stronger going into this season. The largest focus of our team is to continue to build for the future, while also getting Middlebury hockey back into the playoffs and back to its winning ways. We know that in a league as competitive as the Nescac that is never easy, but we have a talented, close knit group that has worked hard all year to prepare for the season."

The team will have a new look this season and will fresh talent to emerge upfront. The Panthers only graduated three players (Greg Conrad '17, Andrew Neary '17 and Travis Stephens '17), but they were all high-scoring starters that contributed to many of the program's wins during their tenures. Other contributors who are not returning from last year's squad, due to injuries and personal reasons, include Zach Weier '18, Matt Doherty '19, Spencer Cage '19 and Danny Jacobs '20.

The team has a promising incoming class with 10 new faces—nine first-years and one sophomore transfer.

Head coach Neil Sinclair reflected positively on his new group and looks forward to starting anew this season.

"We had a young team last year and we will be young again in 2017-18," said Sinclair, who added that the influx of new personnel has brought "energy and enthusiasm [which] has helped set the tone for the team in pre-season. We will be counting on our veterans to lead the team in the early going while the new faces get used to the Nescac and stiff competition in the PrimeLink tournament. We expect this to be an energetic and entertaining group."

The team will be led by three captains: Mark McLellan '18, Vincenzo Gisonti '18, and Kamil Tkaczuk '19.

Key offensive players to watch out for this winter are Gisonti '18, McLellan '18, Tkaczuk '19, Trevor Turnbull '20 and Mitchell Allen '20.

"[Gisonti] has the ability to impact every game," Sinclair said of last season's leading scorer.

Strong defensemen returning include Jimmy McKee '19, Frank Cosolito '20 and David Belluche '18, and Stephen Klein '18 will be tending the net again for the Panthers.

Puck-drop is set for 7 p.m. on Saturday evening against Colby.

Field hockey celebrates its 5–0 win over Rochester in the NCAA regional championship, as the Panthers moved onto the Final Four in Louisville, Kentucky. EMMA STAPLETON

Women's Soccer Bows Out in Second Round of NCAAs

By ROB ERICKSON

After a thrilling season filled with ups than downs, the women's soccer team's 2017 campaign came to a close in the second round of the NCAA tournament this past weekend.

Playing at the field of regional host MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the Panthers opened the 64-team tournament with a 1–0 victory over the Western Connecticut State Colonials on Saturday, Nov. 11.

The next day, the team squared off against the Engineers in what promised to be an exciting match as it featured two top-25 teams (No. 13 MIT and No. 17 Middlebury). There was added intrigue, as well, given that it was the Panthers who eliminated MIT from NCAAs in the first round of the 2016 tournament. This time, however, it was the Engineers who outdid the Panthers. After 90 minutes of tenacious soccer from both teams, MIT emerged with a 1–0 victory to send Middlebury home with a final record of 12–4–2.

After getting bounced from the Nescac tournament in the first round three weeks ago, the Panthers found themselves waiting at home while the conference championship concluded the next weekend. Even though they didn't yet have the assurance that they'd even be invited to the NCAA tournament, Middlebury was hungry for revenge: they went above and beyond in their preparation to put themselves in the best possible position to succeed.

When they did get the call for the NCAA tournament, they were ready, according to Alex Barber '19:

"MWS came into the NCAAs sharp and ready to play. Even though we didn't get to compete in the last weekend of the Nescac tournament, we took no time off and instead played a full inter-squad match on that Saturday. We had an intense week of practice leading up to the first weekend of NCAAs, including a 6:30 a.m. practice and a training session at UVM.

"We don't mess around when it comes to the NCAAs because we know how great of an opportunity it is and how fierce the competition is. It's all about how bad you want it, and we consistently battle to show it."

Their preparedness was more than evident in Saturday's matchup against Western Connecticut St.

Although the Panthers only ended up winning by one goal, the details of the box score offer a little more insight as to how the game really went.Middlebury dominated the game in terms of possession and managed 19 shots to Western Connecticut State's nine. Some of the negative statistics even pointed to a dominant Panther team: the fact that Middlebury was flagged for offside violations seven times to the Colonials' one was indicative of how much more time the ball spent on their opponent's half of the field.

Barber felt that Saturday's matchup against the Colonials was a high point in the Panthers' season, at least in terms of their performance.

"We played technically sharp from the beginning and kept the ball on their half for most of the game, creating continuous scoring opportunities for ourselves," Barber said. "Defensively, we kept their best player from having any dangerous attacking opportunities. I think that game was some of the best soccer we played all season."

Barber was involved in Middlebury's best scoring opportunity of the first half when she directed a corner kick into the penalty box around the 27-minute mark. Alissa Huntington '18 got her head on the cross, but the Colonials' keeper managed to fend off the attempt with a diving save.

The Panthers, keeping the crowd on their toes, ended up waiting until the 83rd minute to convert on one of their many scoring opportunities. Clare Robinson '19 crossed a ball to Barber in Colonial territory, who, in turn, found Virginia Charman '20 with a beautiful one-touch pass. Charman didn't waste the opportunity. She laced the ball into the upper-left corner of the net to give Middlebury the deciding 1–0 lead. The Colonials made one last attempt that ricocheted off the crossbar in the 86th minute, allowing the Panthers held on for the 1–0 victory to advance to the second round.

Facing an MIT team on Sunday that had just stomped Castleton 7–2 a day before, Middlebury nevertheless felt ready for what their opponent was going to bring.

"Having played MIT in the first round last year," Barber explained, "we know what kind of team they are and how they like to play. They play technical and pretty soccer, just how we like to play. Both teams had lots of scoring opportunities and it was a very exciting game, but ultimately, we were unable to find the back of the net in time to score a goal and tie it up.

"MIT is a great team, and we finished the game with our heads held high, knowing that we are a great soccer team that had a fantastic season."

Head coach Peter Kim didn't feel that the team came out flat on Sunday or that they were dealing with a victory hangover, either.

"We were capable of winning both games this weekend, to be sure," Kim said. "Unfortunately, we had difficulty finishing goals this season, and that ended up being the story of the match on Sunday. We created plenty of chances to score, and should've finished a few more than we did."

Middlebury led Sunday's match in shot attempts, 11–10, but only managed to put two of those on target to the Engineers' five. Once MIT scored what was to be the only goal of the game in the 22nd minute, the Panthers found themselves playing a frustrating game of catch-up for the rest of the match, colored by shot attempt after shot attempt that seemed to miss by just inches.

In the first half, Eliza Robinson '21 had a free kick sail high and a second attempt corralled by the MIT goalie in the span of a minute. Eliza Van Voorhis '21 connected with a header from a Barber corner-kick but missed over the crossbar. In the second half, Robinson had another attempt sail just over the top of the goal. Although possession went back and forth, the Panthers were mostly held away from the Engineers' penalty box. When the official's whistled sounded to signal MIT's 1–0 victory, Middlebury's season was over.

On the whole, Kim had some very positive things to offer about the Panthers' season.

"I'll remember this season as one of resiliency," Kim said. "We suffered setbacks in a few key games that we felt we should have won, but those results only strengthened our resolve.

"I'm impressed by how we battled back and earned a NCAA tournament berth, then played some excellent soccer in Cambridge. We out-possessed and outshot Western Connecticut St. by a large margin and pinned MIT in their own half for significant portions of the game.

"It was a heartbreaking way to finish the year," Kim said, "but the final result doesn't take away from the effort the players put in. Hopefully younger players learned how hard they have to work in order to succeed, both individually and as a team. As for the seniors, they are largely responsible for the resiliency that this team showed. While a Nescac run would have been fitting for them, they can be very proud of the team that they built. They left a lasting legacy and will be sorely missed."

Barber looked back on the season just as fondly, if not even more so — largely thanks to the close relationships she developed with her teammates over its course.

"Since we graduated 11 seniors last year, it was important to reassess our personnel and figure out who was going to fill important roles on the team that were vacated," Barber said. "I was consistently blown away by the amount of talent on this team, and how deep our bench is. We didn't just play with 11 starters the whole season, we played with everyone."

But she saved her most touching words for her teammates about to graduate: Huntington, Maddie Morgan '18, Emma Shumway '18 and Rebecca Palacios '18.

"Our four seniors have given our team and the soccer program endless dedication, heart and laughs," Barber said. "They have showed us what it means to work for something you want badly and win, and what it looks like to smile and be grateful in the face of defeat. Alissa, Maddie, Emma and Becca are such special and intelligent individuals, and we will miss them so much as they go off to do amazing things with their lives."

NCAA Championships

FIELD HOCKEY

NCAA Final Four

FRIDAY
At Bellarmine in Louisville, Kentucky
Messiah vs. TCNJ, 4 p.m.
Middlebury vs. Franklin & Marshall, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY
At University of Louisville
Winner of Friday matchups, 4 p.m.

CROSS COUNTRY

SATURDAY
Women's NCAA championship race @ Noon.
Men's NCAA championship race @ 1:15 p.m.

Winter Sports

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

FRIDAY
Trinity at Middlebury, 7 p.m.
SATURDAY
Trinity at Middlebury, 3 p.m.

MEN'S HOCKEY

SATURDAY
Colby at Middlebury, 7 p.m.
SATURDAY
Bowdoin at Middlebury, 4 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Emerson Tip-Off Classic
SATURDAY
Middlebury at Emerson, 1 p.m.
SUNDAY
Middlebury vs. Mt. St. Mary (N.Y.), 1 p.m.
TUESDAY
Middlebury at Johnson St., 5:30 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Middlebury Tournament
SATURDAY
New England College vs. Wentworth, 7 p.m.
Fitchburg St. at Middlebury, 7 p.m.
SUNDAY
Consolation Game, 1 p.m.
Championship Game, 3 p.m.
TUESDAY
Middlebury at Johnson St., 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING & DIVING

SATURDAY
Middlebury vs. Connecticut College, 1 p.m.
SUNDAY
Middlebury vs. Tufts, 1 p.m.

Football Goes Out on a Good Note

Panthers Defeat Tufts to Finish Second in the Nescac

EMMA STAPLETON

In his fourth career start, Jack Meservy '19 led the Panther offense by scoring all five touchdowns, three passing and two rushing, in Middlebury's 35–24 win over Tufts on Saturday, Nov. 11.

No Lebowitz, No Problem: Meservy Leads Panthers Past Tufts

By SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ

On Saturday, Nov. 11, the class of 2018 played their final football game as Middlebury Panthers, completing their nine-game season with a 35–24 win over the Tufts Jumbos and a 7–2 Nescac record.

The Panthers won the coin toss, opting to kick off to the Jumbos and it paid off. Ian Blow '18 forced a fumble at the Tufts' 18-yard line, which was recovered by Zander Bailey '21. Just like that, Middlebury's Jack Meservy '19 completed a 14-yard pass to Peter Scibilia '21 and a short four-yard touchdown pass to Frank Cosolito '20, his first of three on the day. 40 seconds into the game, the Panthers commanded a 7–0 lead.

After a four-and-out on the next Jumbo drive, Middlebury started with the ball on their own 39-yard line. Thanks to a Tufts' 15-yard penalty, several carries by Drew Jacobs '18 and a 26-yard connection between Meservy and Cosolito, the Panthers found themselves at the one-yard line. After an incomplete pass attempt to Cosolito and a rush for no gain by Jacobs, Meservy found the end zone with a one yard sneak. Carter Massengill '20 completed the extra point for his second of the game giving the guests a 14–0 lead.

The Jumbos answered on the next drive, going 80 yards on ten plays. Ryan McDonald completed several passes, including a 27-yard and 21-yard find to two different receivers. Tufts' kicker found the middle of the goal posts to cut Middlebury's lead in half.

Bad luck befell the Panthers at the start of the second quarter. At their own 39-yard line, Meservy looked for Conrado Banky '19 down the seam, but the attempt was incomplete. On top of that, Banky was called for a pass interference call and the Panthers were penalized 15 yards. Unable to convert on 3rd and 24th, Maxwell Rye '20 set to punt, but was blocked and the ball recovered by a crashing Jumbo defense. Tufts scored two plays later to tie the game at 14 a piece.

Middlebury sought to respond, but on the ensuing kickoff, Will Jernigan '21 was stripped of the ball at the 28-yard line and it was recovered by Tufts. Three players later, McDonald gave the Jumbos the lead with a 23-yard rush, dodging and weaving through the Panthers secondary. The extra point was good and the Panthers trailed by seven.

After suffering a three-and-out, Tufts started the next drive on their 26-yard line. McDonald rushed 25 yards to Middlebury's 49 and on the next play completed an 18-yard pass; however, it was called back due to a holding penalty. With first and 20, the Jumbos suffered another penalty, this time a personal foul, pushing the ball back to the 24-yard line. McDonald was subsequently sacked for a loss and the Jumbos took a penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct pushing them all the way back to their own 7-yard line. By the end of their drive, the Tufts suffered a negative 19-yard outing and punted.

Meservy took over at the Jumbo 39-yard line and made quick work. On seven plays, he took the Panthers down the field, completing a short pass to Jimmy Martinez '19, a 27-yard connection with Banky, and a one-yard touchdown rush for Meservy's second of the game. Massengil's attempt was blocked, but the Panthers were within one, trailing 20-21.

At the beginning of the second half, the Panthers started in good field position thanks to a 27-yard kick return by Jernigan. At their own 39-yard line, Scibilia rushed for 15 moving the chains to the Jumbo 46-yard line. Meservy moved the chains twice more, connecting with Maxim Bochman '20 for 12 yards and another with Cosolito for 19 yards. Meservy found Cosolito in the end zone for his second touchdown of the game. Colin Waters '19 tried for the two-point conversion but failed, nevertheless the guests held a 26-21 advantage and a lead for the rest of the game. Tufts converted on a field goal attempt from 41-yards out for their final score of the game.

Middlebury started their last touchdown drive at the nine-minute mark of the third quarter. Martinez gave them field position at their own 34-yard line. Jacobs rushed for four yards and on the next play, Meservy converted with Martinez on a 44-yard pass, placing the Panthers at the Jumbo 18. On first-and-ten, Meservy tried to connect with Cosolito, but failed. He tried on second-and-ten, as well as third-and-ten with Banky but also missed. On fourth-and-down, Meservy found Cosolito in the end zone from 18-yards out, completing the trifecta. Massengill's kick attempt was good and the guests took a 33-24 lead.

After Maxwell Rye's punt put the Jumbos on their own eight-yard line with four minutes left in the fourth quarter, the Panthers sealed the deal. Wesley Becton '18 sacked McDonald on third-and-eight for a ten-yard loss and recovered the ball in the Jumbos' end zone for a safety, giving the Panthers their final points and a 35–24 victory.

"Being on the field for the last time was a crazy experience," said Becton, after his final game in the blue-and-white. "There was a lot of emotions but our team was really fired up and I couldn't be happier with the way we went out. And to be honest, I'll probably remember that last sack for the rest of my life."

Middlebury's season came to a blissful end, finishing second in the Nescac and closing out their final game with a win.

Jourdon Delerme-Brown '20 spoke to the impact that the seniors had on the team.

"I think I speak for everyone on the team when I say sending the seniors out on a positive was of utmost importance. They've given so much to us younger guys and the team as a whole. They will be missed. They've set such a high standard in terms of team chemistry and level of play, we don't want to let them down by falling off the mark next year."

EMMA STAPLETON

Without Lebowitz, Meservy has a chance to lead Middlebury's offense next year when the Panthers look to topple the two-time defending Trinity Bantams.